

THE AUSTIN

# CHRONICLE

**DISTRICT 48 ELECTION:** Tuesday, Jan. 17  
Rites for **HAZEL FALKE-OBEY**  
First Person on **FIRST NIGHT**  
'World' Cinema: **AFS@DOBIE**  
**CHAMILLIONAIRE** Wrestles the Beast  
Invasion of the **PODCASTS**

**MUSIC  
POLL  
BALLOT**  
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0 TIME OUTS 1

QUARTER

ON 8



## Howdy!

My name is **ROB THOMAS**. I'm 41.

My wife took this picture of me at the Rose Bowl. I used to live in Austin (I went to UT, taught at Reagan, and played in the band Hey Zeus), but now I'm in Hollywood, all because of a 17-year-old girl named **VERONICA MARS**.

You can find my interview with Belinda Acosta on p.46.



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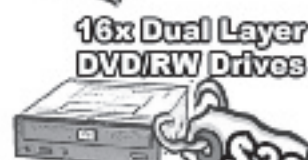
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# Special Election for Texas House of Representatives, District 48

## THE 'CHRONICLE' ENDORSEMENT

**State House District 48, Special Election: Donna Howard**

The artificially rushed circumstances of the state House District 48 special election have delayed our endorsement (normally published prior to early voting), and we expect it will also confuse voters and hold down turnout – as it was intended to do. In announcing a short-term election, straddling the holidays and preceding the March primaries, Gov. Perry is transparently attempting to anoint an instant incumbent – in this case, GOP businessman Ben Bentzin, who failed in his 2002 bid against District 14 state Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos.

The dominating issue is education, because of its importance to District 48 voters, and because of the public school finance crisis and upcoming special legislative session, likely to be called this spring. Although Bentzin is running as a moderate determined simply to “improve the schools,” he would replace his predecessor Todd Baxter as a reflexive vote for the GOP leadership, and he has already declared his support for private school vouchers “in certain circumstances” – a position indistinguishable from that of the stealth voucher promoters at the Capitol. (Ben Easton acknowledges that he is running primarily for Libertarian visibility, and he believes public schools should be privatized altogether – a position at least more straightforward than that of the current state leaders, who loudly proclaim their support for public education while they persist in bleeding the schools dry.)

Both Donna Howard (Eanes ISD) and Kathy Rider (Austin ISD) have school board experience, and are acutely aware of the issues facing the public schools and the necessity for the state not just to reform school finance but to fund more of it. Both are fully qualified for the seat, and it would have been helpful to hear them battle it out in a real primary. But because of the difficult arithmetic of this particular election, we strongly believe supporters of public education should unite behind a single candidate – indeed, it would have been nice if the Democratic Party had had enough common foresight to do so. By a narrow but significant margin, we believe the candidate with the best chance to defeat Perry’s anointed candidate is Donna Howard.

Howard has been a school board member and a critical care nurse, and has made education and health care the dominant issues of her campaign, which has been immediately visible and effective. She understands the predicament of the current school finance system, its specific, often contradictory effects in her district and in Central Texas as a whole, and she will be an immediate asset to the regional delegation as well as to the Democratic minority in the House. Moreover, if the Democrats are to begin their difficult return to a balancing presence in state government, they need to put their votes where their anger is, turn out in this election, and send a message to Travis County and the entire state. ■

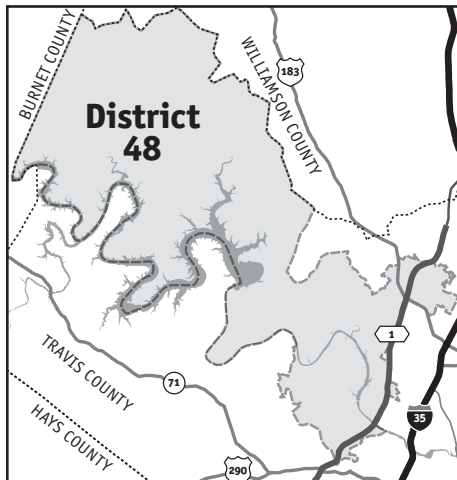
## Candidates

Kathy Rider (Democrat)  
Donna Howard (Democrat)  
Ben Easton (Libertarian)  
Ben Bentzin (Republican)

Early voting runs through Friday, Jan. 13.

Election day is Tuesday, Jan. 17.

Voters in District 48 may vote at any location listed below during early voting but must vote in their individual precincts on election day. (See [www.traviscountytax.org/showVoterSearch.do](http://www.traviscountytax.org/showVoterSearch.do) to find your precinct and whether you reside in District 48. Or call 854-9473.)



## POSTMARKS

### Could Have Done More

Dear Editor,

I used to be a regular at G/M Steakhouse for my morning paper, coffee, conversation, and cigar [“Food-o-File,” Food, Dec. 30]. The regulars included people coming for more than 20 years.

G/M was renowned as a smoker’s diner. The owner was infamous for always having a cigar in his mouth. Nonsmokers could walk 50 feet to Waterloo for a smoke-free breakfast.

When smoking was banned, I and many others stopped going as often and found other places with outside patios for our morning rituals. Nonsmoking customers did not increase to offset the loss of the smokers.

G/M has been driven out of business because it wasn’t allowed to let consenting adults enjoy a legal product.

Certainly we all agree that no one should be exposed to smoke against their will, but what about the freedom of people who enjoy a smoke-friendly environment? What about a business that depends on that clientele?

The *Chronicle* could have done more to help educate the public about the unintended consequences of indiscriminate smoking bans and perhaps have saved a small mom-and-pop diner icon from political correctness.

Paul Silver

*[Virginia B. Wood responds: Paul Silver’s explanation of the failure of G/M Steakhouse is as*

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** must be signed with full name and include daytime phone number, full address, or e-mail address. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Letters may not be edited, added to, or changed by sender once we receive them.

*one-dimensional and flawed as the one proposed by the young man who placed the blame at the feet of a greedy land owner. A variety of factors contributed to the demise of that business.]*

### Baby Has Six Fingers?

Dear Editor,

The baby on the cover has six fingers [Dec. 30]. Is this a graphics issue, or does the child really have extra digits?

Julie Hughes

### Not Sumner, Me, Me, Me

Dear Editor,

Hi, Austin, my name is Kiloh, and I manage the Texas Psych Google group: [www.groups.google.com/group/Texas-P](http://www.groups.google.com/group/Texas-P). I read with bemusement your article, by Margaret Moser, on Sumner Erickson [“Starry Eyes,” Music, Dec. 30].

The first inaccuracy in the Sumner article is that we are doing something “illegal” by trading CDs among ourselves for free. This activity is protected under federal law, specifically the Federal Audio Home Recording Act (3).

The second inaccuracy in the Sumner article is that the Roky Trust has always been against this activity. Ms. Moser knows that this trading was set up as far back as 1999 with the help of the Roky Trust. This was when Rick Triplett was running things and Roky was living in abject poverty. We arranged to collect a “donation” for each disc traded and forward it to Mr. Triplett for distribution to Roky in the form of pocket money. People that now sit on the current Roky “Trust” were engaged in a lawsuit with the (then) Roky Trust, and all monies were being tied up in escrow. We had to call it a “donation” to get the money to Roky. That certain people now sit on the Roky Trust in positions of “Trust” galls us and we maintain that the Trust relinquished the right to legitimacy by putting these people on it.

The third inaccuracy presented by Ms. Moser in the Sumner article was that Sumner Erickson “tried” to mend fences with us. This event just happened and the “story” presented by Ms. Moser is wholly untrue as she well knows. It was our group who tried to mend fences with Sumner. We contacted Sumner and opened a

*continued on p.8*

## EARLY VOTING

Through Friday, Jan. 13, 7am-7pm

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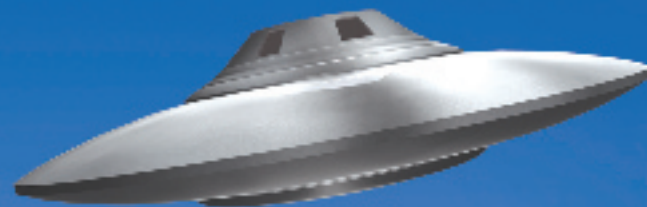
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dialogue with him. Alas, after a series of increasingly obtuse and bizarre e-mails from him we decided to cut him loose.

Kiloh Smith  
Phoenix, Ariz.

[Margaret Moser replies: 1) Sumner used the word "illegal." I did not. 2) Kiloh, who frequently calls himself "Satan" online, is correct in saying the Trust in its early days did not disapprove of the trading. However, when they were educated about it, their support was withdrawn. 3) The phrase "mend fences" doesn't suggest the action as much as participation. Sumner participated in an attempt to smooth over the rift with Kiloh, and Kiloh chose to end the effort.]

## Dispute Over Percentage

Dear Editor,

In an otherwise excellent article on vanishing prairies ["Dreaming of Buffalo," News, Dec. 23] you say, "the Edwards Aquifer, which feeds Barton Springs ... contributes about 1% of the city's drinking water." Developers' allies propagated this erroneous claim many years ago. Unfortunately, this myth sometimes gets repeated as "fact."

The Tom Green Water Treatment Plant on Town Lake actually supplies 15 to 20% of the city's drinking water. And for much of the year, Barton Springs' flow is the major contributor to Green's water intake.

From mid-October to mid-March, essentially the only flow into Town Lake comes from Barton Creek (see [www.lcra.org/water/river\\_report.html](http://www.lcra.org/water/river_report.html)). In fact, Barton Creek, due to the Springs, right now

is the largest measured tributary to the Colorado River below the Llano River (see <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/tx/nwis/current?type=flow>).

Later on in the year, more water in Town Lake does come from the Highland Lakes. Even then, Green may draw more from the aquifer because the mouth of Barton Creek is very close by upriver. Also, water of different temperatures doesn't evenly mix – cold water sinks to the bottom of Town Lake on warm summer days. Colder aquifer water could disproportionately supply the Green intake 8 feet below the lake's surface.

An implied subtext to this debate is an unstated idea that the aquifer is expendable. However, a growing city that faces periodic droughts shouldn't throw away any high-quality water resource.

Some real estate interests want to replace the Green WTP with a new water plant on Lake Travis. Even though it could cost utility rate payers more to build a new water plant than to expand the old one, these interests covet the downtown land that Green sits on. Other developers would love to further undermine the case for protecting Barton Springs. These are the original sources for the 1% myth.

Stephen Beers

[Rachel Proctor May responds: According to the Austin Water Utility, the figure is roughly 1%.]

## Sumner Made Right Decision

Dear Editor,

The story is an inspiring tale of not only a comeback, but of a brother's devotion ("Starry Eyes," Music, Dec. 30). I visited Sumner [Erickson] during his Pittsburgh Symphony days (when he also was on the faculty of Carnegie Mellon Institute) and could not understand his decision to return to Austin for more pressing duties. His success

is a glowing story beautifully described in *The Austin Chronicle*. I was wrong and he was right in making the decision to switch careers for a primary goal of participating in Roky [Erickson]'s long-awaited recovery as a legendary Austin contributor to the music scene.

Bill Krasilovsky

## G/M Not Gone Forever

Dear Editor,

I just read Virginia Wood's article on my dad's restaurant, the G/M Steakhouse ["Food-o-File," Food, Dec. 30]. It's true that my father, Gus, has decided to hang up his spatula and turn west toward his sunset, but it doesn't mean the G/M is gone forever. I have decided to keep the spot going and negotiated a lease with the owner of the property to reopen the classic diner that many "true" Austinites have grown accustomed to. There will be some remodeling for the next few weeks to regain that old G/M charm and, unfortunately for Gus, no smoking. I look forward to serving up good food to all the "regulars" and newbies in the coming years.

Chris Vayas

## Nonsmokers Are Better People

Dear Editor,

I need to clarify something for Carl Swanson ("Postmarks," Jan. 6). The proliferation of butts on Austin streets and sidewalks, and presumably in Austin watersheds, is not because of the smoking ban. It's because the vast majority of Austin smokers are pigs. They throw their butts out of their cars. (Did carmakers suddenly quit making ashtrays?) They smoke a cigarette outside their office (on their boss' dime) and then throw the butt on the sidewalk. They wait for a table at a restaurant and, when they get one, throw their butts on the ground. People who'd

never think of throwing trash or garbage into the street think nothing of flicking their butts there.

I don't know the solution of correcting behavior of people who are acting like barnyard animals, but nonsmokers aren't causing the problem.

Michael M. Simpson

## Too Much Development Already

Dear Editor,

Douglas Watkins writes ["Postmarks," Jan. 6] about the extensive development in the Barton Springs Watershed of the Edwards Aquifer, where rainfall runs off land or pavement, enters the aquifer, flows underground, and emerges at Barton Springs.

There has been an awful lot of urban development over the Barton Springs Watershed. Watkins is wrong to conclude that Advanced Micro Devices should spur further urbanization by building a major campus in our most fragile watershed and setting off a growth boom Southwest.

More urban development in the Barton Springs Watershed means more pollution of Barton Springs, drinking-water wells, water supply to the city of Austin, plus more flooding downstream.

Mr. Watkins points out that Motorola (now Freescale) has an enormous operation in the watershed. The residential developments Watkins points out in the watershed were spurred in large part by Motorola's creation of a major employment center in Southwest Austin and the accompanying infrastructure. The result of that urban development is dirtier water in Barton Springs.

Where rocks once glistened under clear water, they are now covered in sediment and algae. After heavy rains the water turns murky, pumping out pollutants washed into the aquifer.

In dry weather, the water clears. Barton Springs is still a marvel of nature but one that's

continued on p.10

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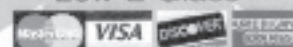
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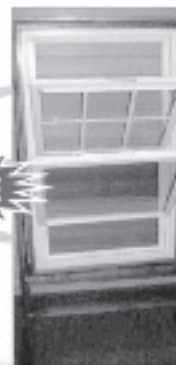
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The horse of urbanization is halfway out of the barn. Will we let it run wild?

Colin Clark

## Environment Degraded

Dear Editor,

Silicon Labs may have helped save the aquifer, but, after the Labs' move downtown, the total fuel burned each day by its workforce is likely to increase, and congestion on MoPac will increase by about 500 cars per day ["Silicon Labs to Move Downtown, Out of Watershed," News, Dec. 9]. Long story short: The workers' environment will take a hit while SOS claims a victory.

Charlie Thompson

## First Night a Smashing Success

Dear Editor,

I must say that I was a bit skeptical of how Austin's First Night would turn out ["The Last Shall Be First," Arts, Dec. 30]. The results not only surprised me, they reaffirmed everything that I have loved about Austin. Sure, there were no giant corporate floats with inflated logos and bright flashing lights. But then ... there were no giant corporate floats with inflated logos and

## THIS MODERN WORLD



bright flashing lights! Instead, the parade consisted of community groups, dancing ants, and creative DIY mobile artwork built by Austinites. Better yet, even the crowd that gathered along the street was the eclectic mix of friendly, down-to-earth Austin people that convinced me to move here in the first place. For all of the gentrification

and clone-store takeover of our city, the core of the community I love is alive and well, and First Night brought everyone back out to play. This is still a lively, unique city that I am proud to have chosen as my home base. Well done, Austin. Keep it weird in the New Year, y'all!

Kai Mantsch

## Barton 'Facts' Wrong

Dear Editor,

An earlier letter to the *Chronicle* incorrectly states that the recharge zone and contributing zone for Barton Springs are extensively developed and incorrectly suggests that runoff from the development would not discharge to Barton Springs ["Postmarks," Jan. 6]. However, less than one-half of the recharge zone is fully developed and only a small percent of the contributing zone is developed.

Even then, substantial water-quality degradation has been documented at Barton Springs ([www.ci.austin.tx.us/watershed/oprslade.htm](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/watershed/oprslade.htm)).

Although some degradation has occurred, the water quality of Barton Springs is still well within swimming criteria. However, it is likely that uncontrolled urbanization in the watersheds feeding the springs will eventually cause Barton Springs to be degraded to the extent that it must be closed to swimming.

Raymond Slade Jr.  
Certified professional hydrologist

## Ludicrous Response

Dear Editor,

I just read Kiloh Smith's ludicrous response [p.6] to Margaret Moser's article about Roky Erickson ["Starry Eyes," Music, Dec. 30] ... it made me laugh my head off. Kiloh is the "moderator" (although there's nothing moderate about him) of an online group, Texas Psych, and

continued on p.12

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just considering the quality of his own listserv, I find it silly that he has the nerve to pick a bone with anyone. He sounds like all those other folks out there who are pissed off because they no longer have such easy access to Roky now that Sumner is looking out for him. Get a life, Kiloh!

Leea Mechling

## The Bigger Story on Pot

Dear Editor,

It's true medical marijuana didn't get out of committee in the Texas Lege ["The Chronic Goes On," News, Jan. 6], but a bigger story, IMO, was that the same committee (House Criminal Jurisprudence) approved HB 254 unanimously, with Republicans Mary Denny, Terry Keel, and Debbie Riddle voting for it along with former drug task force commander Democrat Juan Escobar. That bill would have reduced the penalties for low-level marijuana possession from a class B to a class C misdemeanor – meaning a traffic-ticketlike fine and a drug education class comparable to what's currently required in Austin for paraphernalia charges.

Speaker Tom Craddick and the Calendars Committee didn't let the bill get a vote on the House floor, but it cleared committee mostly for financial reasons: with class B's, counties must pay incarceration and indigent defense costs, while class C's generate fines and revenue, with

fewer associated expenses. With county jails like Travis' and most others completely full, that legislation should still have legs in future sessions.

Scott Henson

## Supports Donna Howard

Dear Editor,

Donna Howard has the shortest learning curve in preparing for the special session on education funding of the candidates running for the District 48 seat in the House of Representatives ["Special Election for Texas House of Representatives, District 48," Jan. 6]. The Texas Supreme Court has ordered the Texas Legislature to come up with a public education funding plan by June 2006.

Donna Howard has attended House/Senate Committee meetings since 2002. She heard the discussion of the committees, the testimony of school districts, taxpayers, PTAs, large and small businesses, and the concerns of Robin Hood districts and the Equity Center. Donna helped to bring these disparate interests together in discussion panels across the state.

District 48 needs Donna Howard. She can immediately participate in the discussion. She will represent the school districts of District 48 and has the respect of those she will be working with.

Vote Jan. 17.

Nan Clayton

Former president  
AISD board of trustees

## Celebrate Roky Erickson

Dear Editor,

Not long ago my son Jon, who is now 35 and in the Air Force, checked the Travis County Appraisal District and told me that the home where he lived in the late 60's with his little brother and my son Craig Stewart, was worth quite a bit more than he had expected. I remember the home as quite small and it seemed a steep price to me at \$185,000 for 1,100 square feet. I preface this comment to tell you that during the time I lived there, a certain Roky Erickson, of 13th Floor Elevators fame, lived right in the same area. I spent my days, however, as a mother to Craig, and Jon David Stewart, and being a teacher at nearby St. Elmo School. My music ran in the direction of Charlie Pride, or Jim Reeves, more or less, and the 1969 Texas Longhorns were much more exciting to me than "some rock band" called the Elevators.

But the fact remains, from the area of Bluebonnet and South Lamar a legend was being created at this time. Right down the street from my house, Roky Erickson, a student at Travis High, was launching his career in the now defunct 13th Floor Elevators. Oh, the "cool" people knew who he was, for they would gather at the New Orleans Club or the Jade Room in the Sixties to hear him scream "You're Gonna Miss Me," but not this mommy and teacher.

Through Craig, I was thrilled to have the opportunity to meet Roky at his 55th birthday party

on Sixth Street in 2002, and I've enjoyed his company a few times since then at benefits and dinner at his favorite – Threadgill's on Barton Springs. Those of you who know him are aware of how calm and charismatic he is. He's a breath of fresh air in the complicated Austin of the 21st century. You look at him and marvel at the talent he displayed 35 years ago, cranking out songs like "Living on Monkey Island." Not long ago, my dream came true. I was able to relive what I missed during the late Sixties and watch Roky bravely, and without trepidation, step on the stage to once more, 35 years later, share his talent and genius with all who gathered there at Ruta Maya one hot night last summer.

And now, though 61 years old, I can join my voices and scream and jump with the rest who love and adore Roky, no matter what their ages. Ask me to sing any of his songs – I can, you know, and I join with my friend, Lili Lytle ["Postmarks," Jan. 6], in saying, "I love you, too, Roky"!

Missy Stewart

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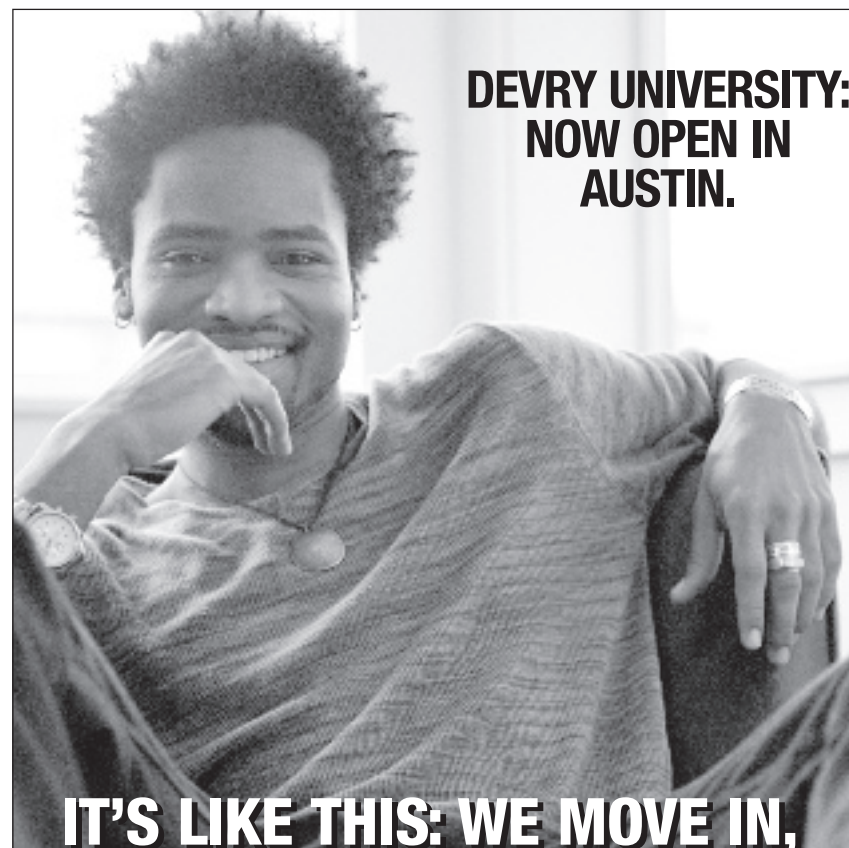
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Austin civil rights and Democratic Party activist Hazel Falke-Obey was laid to rest Friday afternoon, following a memorial service at First Baptist Church downtown, attended by hundreds of relatives and friends and closing with a eulogy by the Rev. Jesse Jackson (right). Obey was a key figure in integrating the Austin Independent School District, speaking out on police treatment of minorities, and other issues. Numerous current and former elected officials from around Texas and the nation attended her funeral. See p.21.



JANA BIRCHUM



## Quote of the WEEK

"The job of majority leader and the mandate of the Republican majority are too important to be hamstrung, even for a few months, by personal distractions."

— Ex-majority leader **Tom DeLay**, in a letter to U.S. House Speaker Dennis Hastert announcing that he won't try to regain his majority leadership, due to the personal distractions of felony indictments in Travis Co.

## HEADLINES

- ▶ As of Wednesday morning, a whopping 2,403 citizens had voted early in the **District 48 state House election** — 2.43% of registered voters. At this rate, Todd Baxter's successor will be selected by his immediate relatives. Get out there and vote, Westsiders! Early voting runs through Jan. 13; election day is Tuesday, Jan. 17. For more on the District 48 election, see p.24.
- ▶ The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals rejected Rep. **Tom DeLay's** request for either dismissal of the felony indictments pending against him or a speedy trial, prompting DeLay's withdrawal from contention for his former U.S. House leadership post and furious jockeying among Republican House rivals.
- ▶ **City Council** begins its 2006 deliberations with the usual batch of zoning cases and the likelihood of sharp words over council members' reluctance to get involved in the debate over AMD's relocation to the Barton Springs area. Meanwhile, the citizens' Bond Election Advisory Committee confirmed its November recommendations, forwarding a \$614.8 million package for council consideration later this month. See p.16 and p.18.
- ▶ As we went to press last Wednesday night — just in case you missed it — the **UT Longhorns** beat the USC Trojans in the Rose Bowl, 41-38, winning the national championship behind a miraculous performance from quarterback Vince Young. On Sunday, Young announced he would enter the NFL draft, prompting the *New York Times'* William C. Rhoden to comment, "Perhaps Young is ahead of this time. ... There is already griping about his unorthodox delivery. Thelonious Monk had an unorthodox delivery, too." (Fans who just can't get enough UT football are invited to show up Sunday at Memorial Stadium for a team celebration. Gates open at 5pm for a program beginning at 6:30.)

## NAKED CITY

- ▶ **KOOP Radio** (91.7FM) is back on the air. The building which houses KOOP at 304 E. Fifth caught fire Sunday night, and a resident of the building had to be rescued by firefighters, who themselves had to be treated for smoke inhalation. The station's third-floor studio and offices were not damaged, but the rest of the building — which houses rehearsal and living spaces for several musicians — suffered enough damage to temporarily make entry to the studio unsafe. — *Lee Nichols*
- ▶ The **No Child Left Behind Act** is changing public schools throughout the country. Love it? Hate it? Got ideas to improve it? Wish you knew more about it? Show up to a hearing at the George Washington Carver Museum & Cultural Center on Thursday, Jan. 12, 4-7pm, to share your experiences. Hosted by Austin Voices for Education and Youth, the Public Education Network, and other community groups, the hearing is one of 10 that will be held throughout the country; collected testimony will be turned into a report and delivered posthaste to our fearless leaders in Washington. — *Rachel Proctor May*
- ▶ Austin-based **Whole Foods Market** announced Tuesday that it intends to offset 100% of the electricity used in all of its stores, facilities, bake houses, distribution centers, and regional offices in North America by buying renewable energy credits from wind farms. The grocer claims that this is the largest wind-credit purchase in the history of the U.S. and Canada and that it makes Whole Foods the only Fortune 500 company to offset all of its electricity use with wind energy credits. Whole Foods says it would be physically impossible to deliver wind power directly to all of its facilities, so the energy credits, contracted through Boulder, Colo.-based Renewable Choice Energy, track the exact amount of electricity produced by a wind

*continued on p.17*

# Pointed Questions for 2006

**When the Lege comes back to school, will they have done their homework?**

BY MICHAEL KING

Gov. Perry got the political New Year off to a (far) right start, when he wrote a constituent that he believes "intelligent design" should be taught in Texas schools as an acceptable alternative to Darwinian biological theory. One might think, with Carole Keeton Strayhorn having bolted the upcoming Republican primary, Perry would no longer feel quite so obligated to cultivate his fundamentalist base. But not so — spokeswoman Kathy Walt, an otherwise educated person who is definitely earning her flack's salary on this one, confirmed that the governor supports teaching intelligent design (aka creationism with a college degree) as "part of the effort to teach critical and analytical thinking skills." Along the same lines, we await the governor's proposal for Texas students to study Flat Earth Theory as part of the effort to overthrow the secular tyranny of materialist geography.

When Perry's predecessor — you remember Dynamic Dubya? — used to spout this bilge, it was impossible to determine whether he really believed Phonics Cures All Ills or was just reading the requisite cue cards. But Perry seems frankly, even bitterly smarter than the dumbed-down level of contemporary Texas politics. Maybe that explains the inevitably nasty edge to so many of his press conferences, when reporters spout their predictable questions and he snarls his more-predictable answers. He has to dance, but he doesn't have to pretend he likes it.

As for Strayhorn, all she had to do to get the endorsement of the Texas State Teachers Association was to declare herself an "independent." Since her One True Party has always been Carole Keeton Strayhorn, you'd think the TSTA would at least wait a few weeks before they jumped on her careening November bandwagon. But the teachers have been wandering in the desert for so long even saltwater looks refreshing. Union President Donna New Haschke sheepishly called CKS "electable" — since the official endorsement score is now Perry 140, Strayhorn 1, Haschke might consider a refresher in Math 101. More to the point, although Strayhorn has been more rhetorically supportive of public education than Perry — and reportedly renounced vouchers in return for the endorsement — she's done more than her own share of school-bashing. In particular, she loves to bray the Big GOP Lie that "only 50%" of school funding is spent in the classroom. That's true, of course, only if you

*continued on p.16*







farm and apply it to the company's energy consumption. "Offsetting 100% of our electricity use with renewable, clean energy strengthens our commitment to be a leader in environmental stewardship," said a Whole Foods spokesman. Tom "Smitty" Smith, director of Public Citizen's Texas office, applauded the decision, saying the purchase ensures that wind farms will be built somewhere in the U.S. and shows how a responsible corporation can positively effect energy policy.

— Daniel Mottola

- According to Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, so-called **poker run charity events** violate the state's gambling statutes. Poker runs — such as the Austin Police officer-organized event in December 2004, after which APD Cmdr. Shauna Jacobson and her husband, retired Detective Malcolm "Kurt" Jacobson, died in a drunk-driving wreck on Highway 71 — in which participants ride motorcycles to five stops, picking up a playing card at each in order to build a five-card poker hand, are popular fund-raising events with law enforcement agencies.

Abbott's decision, released Dec. 27, was in response to a request for an opinion made by Galveston Co. Criminal District Attorney Kurt Sistrunk, who asked the state's top lawyer to consider the legality of poker runs — specifically, one recently organized by Galveston Co. sheriff's deputies who were raising money for an injured officer. According to Abbott, when participants are offered the chance for a cash prize — as in Galveston — the event runs afoul of state gambling laws. And the charity raffle exception to the law allows for the awarding of prizes based on a single winning "ticket," but not "where prizes are awarded based on hands of cards." (To read the full opinion, go to [www.oag.state.tx.us/opinions/op50abbott/ga-0385.htm](http://www.oag.state.tx.us/opinions/op50abbott/ga-0385.htm).)

— Jordan Smith



- Controversy in Lakeway over a proposed retirement village looks like it will spill into City Council chambers. Lakeway's zoning and planning commission approved Jan. 4 an ordinance allowing the **Summit at Lakeway** to exceed the city's 100,000-square-foot development limit, to the consternation of several would-be neighbors. Chris Wittmayer, who has led the fight against the retirement complex, says it will lie 150 feet from his home in the neighboring Village of the Hills. Worried that it will knock tens of thousands of dollars off the property values of surrounding homes, he said, "We would have never bought or built on this land if we had any idea [about the retirement community]." At five stories and 530,000 square feet, the proposed center is anchored by an apartment-style independent living center, and would feature outlying homes and assisted living units. Wittmayer, an attorney, alleges that mistakes by Lakeway's City Council and zoning entities, such as improper public notice of the zoning hearing, have rendered the zoning changes moot, and he threatens legal recourse if the changes stand. The Summit is tentatively scheduled for approval by Lakeway City Council on Jan. 17. — Wells Dunbar

- The nonprofit **Solar Austin** has good news for those interested in pursuing a career in solar energy. They've teamed up with Austin Community College and the State Energy Conservation Office to offer a 14-week course to obtain the sought-after North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners Photovoltaic Entry Level Certificate of Knowledge. The certificate itself will not qualify one to install photovoltaic systems, but it does make the student eligible to enter the workforce and secure the required two years of on-the-job training to be able to sit for the NABCEP PV installer exam. The class costs \$475 plus lab fees and runs Jan. 30-May 6, Mondays and Wednesdays, 6-7:30pm, for the first 11 weeks, and then Saturdays, 9am-2pm. It will run again in the fall of 2006. Instructor John Hoffner said the class is designed for people who want to go into the solar business — not only as installers, but as system designers or business managers. Near the end of the "fun and hands-on" course, he said, students will build an operating solar system and connect it to the power grid. For more info, see [www3.austinctc.edu/schedule/wcell/ceren.htm](http://www3.austinctc.edu/schedule/wcell/ceren.htm) or contact ACC High Technology Institute coordinator Bob McGoldrick at 223-7662 or [rmcgoldr@austinctc.edu](mailto:rmcgoldr@austinctc.edu). — D.M.

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency's **Austin Disaster Recovery Center** closed its doors permanently Wednesday, so evacuees of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the area who have FEMA business to take care of now must do it online at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) or by calling 800/621-FEMA. For those with speech or hearing impairments, call TTY 800/462-7585. — Cheryl Smith

## BEYOND CITY LIMITS

- In other hurricane relief news, Americans opened their wallets to record depths in 2005 in the wake of **hurricanes Katrina and Rita**. As of Dec. 16, individuals, corporations, and foundations in the U.S. had contributed a combined total of more than \$3.1 billion to hurricane relief efforts since Katrina struck the Gulf Coast on Aug. 29, according to data from the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University. That dwarfs the nearly \$1.9 billion Americans have raised for relief efforts for the devastating tsunami that swelled from the Indian Ocean on Dec. 26, 2004. The American Red Cross raised by far the most money for Katrina and Rita relief efforts — \$1.85 billion, or about 59% of the total. Wayne Brennessel, executive director of the American Red Cross of Central Texas, said his chapter has sent \$6.2 million to the organization's national office to help pay for the cost of the Gulf storms. "Certainly beats the tsunami," said Brennessel of the total. He said his chapter raised \$1.2 million in the tsunami's aftermath. — C.S.

- Even with the odds in his favor to win the **governor's race** in November, GOP Gov. Rick Perry pulled just 40% of the statewide vote in the latest pulse taken by Rasmussen Reports, a public opinion research firm. The poll showed independent challenger Carole Keeton Strayhorn earning 21%, followed by Democrat Chris Bell with 14%, and independent Kinky Friedman with 12%. Rasmussen Reports concluded that Perry is in no better shape today than he was when state Comptroller Strayhorn was running as a Republican. Strayhorn declared her independence Jan. 2. The polling firm will include Democratic candidate and former Supreme Court Justice Bob Gammage in its next poll. A separate survey of voters showed U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, with a comfortable 65% lead over Democratic challenger Barbara Ann Radnofsky, who netted 25%. — Amy Smith

- In other governor's race news, the **Texas State Teachers Association** broke from tradition this week and endorsed its first Republican candidate for statewide office — former schoolteacher and gubernatorial hopeful Carole Keeton Strayhorn. The state comptroller is running as an independent in her bid to unseat Gov. Rick Perry in November. The teachers' group, the state affiliate of the National Education Association, said Strayhorn's passion for public education was the overriding factor in its decision to back her. It helps that Strayhorn has also reversed herself on a past position she took in advocating state-funded private school vouchers. "Texas schoolchildren and teachers need a governor who can forge a bipartisan education funding plan," said TSTA President Donna New Haschke. "We have given the current leadership three years to get the job done and they have failed." — A.S.

- The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals has rejected U.S. Rep. **Tom DeLay's** request to have felony charges against him dismissed or remanded to a lower court for a speedy trial. The state's highest criminal court denied the appeal Monday without comment, just two days after DeLay announced he would not attempt to regain his post as House majority leader. DeLay and two associates, John Colyandro and Jim Ellis, face money-laundering charges in connection with their efforts to ensure a Republican sweep in the 2002 legislative races. Travis Co. prosecutors accuse the three of funneling \$190,000 in corporate dollars through the Republican National Committee to the campaigns of seven GOP legislative candidates, including former Austin Reps. Todd Baxter and Jack Stick. — A.S.

- On Jan. 4, the investigator hired to lead the independent probe into the workings of the beleaguered **Houston Police Department Crime Lab** released his fourth report detailing findings based on 1,100 case reviews. In the 82-page report, investigator Michael R. Bromwich, a former inspector general for the U.S. Department of Justice, writes that his team found "severe and pervasive problems" with serology and DNA profiling work during the entire 15-year time frame he was hired to review. So far, the probe has uncovered "major issues" in over 40% of the DNA cases the lab reviewed in the Nineties and early 2000s, "including significant deficiencies" in DNA analyses in the cases of death row inmates Franklin Dewayne Alix, Juan Carlos Alvarez, and Gilmar Alex Guevara. (None of the three have been executed.) Bromwich also reports that several analysts failed to "report reliable and potentially exculpatory DNA typing results and instead reported questionable ... results that incriminated the suspect," and that the lab failed to use "proper controls" to guard against contamination. On a brighter note, Bromwich reported finding "some very competent and high quality work" within the lab's firearms, toxicology, and questioned documents sections. So far, Bromwich's team has examined about 40% of the cases the lab worked between 1987 and 2002, leaving about 1,600 cases to review. To read the entire report, go to [www.hpdlabinvestigation.org](http://www.hpdlabinvestigation.org). — J.S.

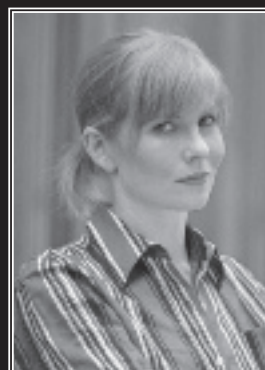
- San Antonio millionaire James Leininger, the oft-mentioned but seldom-seen contributor to pro-voucher candidates, put in an appearance at the **Texas Public Policy Foundation's Policy Orientation** this week. Leininger, who told reporters after his speech that he would continue supporting pro-voucher candidates, told the group of his own early efforts to provide private and parochial school vouchers to low-income children in San Antonio. He said it is both immoral and unjust to force children to attend public schools in situations where they are physically or mentally abused, and that providing low-income families with vouchers gives them the same options that upper-middle income families have. The school choice panel at the forum also included lobbyist Brock Gregg of the Association of Texas Professional Educators and Railroad Commissioner Michael L. Williams. — Kimberly Reeves

- Mexia's most famous daughter, **Anna Nicole Smith**, got a little unexpected support from the Bush administration, which filed a brief on Smith's behalf with the U.S. Supreme Court, where Smith's long-simmering battle to secure a sizable portion of her late husband's fortune is slated to take center stage Feb. 28. At issue — and what has earned the interest of the administration — is whether the federal courts have jurisdiction to consider a claim on a will while it is already under consideration in state probate court. A federal court in California considered and awarded Smith an \$89-million judgment on the estate of her deceased husband, Texas oil tycoon J. Howard Marshall II, while a challenge to her claims, made by Marshall's son, was already being considered by a Texas probate court. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned the decision, arguing that the federal courts lacked jurisdiction over the matter. The Bush administration has weighed in, arguing that the Supremes should protect the feds' jurisdiction rights in such matters. The high court has yet to rule on whether the federal solicitor will be allowed to argue its position during next month's oral arguments. — J.S.

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# To Bond, or Not to Bond?

Despite the newly unanswered questions hanging over the Great Bond Election of 2006 – like, when’s the damn thing scheduled, May or November? – the **Bond Election Advisory Committee’s** work is done. Monday night, the committee stuck to its guns, formally endorsing the same \$614.8 million package it drafted in November, including \$67.5 million for affordable housing, \$92.3 million for open space, and a hard-fought \$90 million for a central library.

Cut, in the end, were last-minute proposals for dealing with the package’s late-gestation problem child – **State Highway 130**, the 49-mile tollway development east of the city, expected to drive much regional growth in the

## Proposed COA Bond Package

Facilities	\$144.0 million
Drainage	122.1 million
Transportation	98.9 million
Open Space	92.3 million
New Central Library	90.0 million
Affordable Housing	67.5 million
Total	\$614.8 million

next decade. Highway-related projects had not been on the committee’s radar until Mayor Wynn sounded a sudden alarm for that effort – without suggesting that the \$600 million overall target should be expanded. With the proposal due at council this month, the committee was abruptly faced with a late-inning substitution.

“I’m kinda out of line in this,” said **David Sullivan**, veteran of 1998’s bond process, “trying to introduce this in this late stage. But I’m duty-bound to make this recommendation.” Sullivan’s apologetic suggestion, which came during last week’s final meeting of the public outreach subcommittee, was to ask the council to shovel an additional \$200 million in general revenue bonds (repaid from city operating

funds) on top of the committee’s \$614.8 million in general obligation bonds (repaid from property taxes) for dealing with SH 130. Calling the \$200 million figure simply a placeholder, Sullivan backed away from the number, instead contemplating language instructing the city manager simply to examine the possibility of revenue bonding. But that alternative was also abandoned, when Sullivan learned the city has “moved away” from revenue bonding. Still, the proposals illustrated the committee’s unease in trying to balance its charge of providing for 130 without any additional funds for the purpose – especially after everything else in the package has already been spoken for, many times over.

The initial City Council resolution calling for the bond election says it should be designed in “common to those goals identified by **Envision Central Texas**,” the umbrella organization assembled to guide regional development. But the BEAC began work before the conclusion of the SH 130 planning process, so even ECT’s stalwart supporters have been frustrated. Committee Member **Robin Rather** is on ECT’s board of directors and executive committee, yet at the final BEAC discussion, she said the bond committee has received “no specific plan ... no backup” on 130. With 130’s specific needs so nebulous – and other projects made concrete by hundreds of speakers – in its final days the committee scrambled for ways to preserve the overall package while providing wiggle room for 130. An outline of the final report says as much, noting that while SH 130 investment is needed, “the lack of detailed proposals to date, and the resulting lack of vetting/consideration by the community, highlights the amount of work still needing to be done to bring any such package to fruition.”

What’s to blame for the discordant climax? Probably the conflict between the council’s lofty planning goals and the pragmatic nuts and bolts requested by city staff. Despite the mayor’s request that the bond proposal be informed by ECT goals, the committee’s explicit template began with City Manager **Toby Futrell’s** “needs assessment” – very



heavy on city infrastructure, light on 130 recommendations, and knee-deep in workaday items of uncertain import to a bond election, like HVAC repairs and roof replacements for ailing buildings – undertakings normally paid for directly out of the city’s general revenue. And when public hearings commenced, the committee wasn’t exactly overwhelmed by 130 boosters; of the hundreds of speakers, there was a sole mayoral echo on behalf of 130 – a spokesman from the Chamber of Commerce, who grudgingly acknowledged that he had no specific projects to recommend.

That’s not to say the committee will recommend nothing concerning 130. According to Sullivan, funds for creek protection, affordable housing, and \$20 million of the open space recommendation apply to SH 130 neighborhoods. However, all of the \$66 million allocated directly to roads will fund reconstruction, and none applies to 130-related roads (e.g., expanding MLK eastward). Sullivan said he has “some trepidation” that when the council looks for funds for 130, it will be other road projects feeling the axe. Alternate forms of SH 130 financing might be considered – perhaps tax increment financing, under an amendment to 1997’s **SB 370**, from Austin Sen. **Gonzalo Barrientos** (“The language essentially points at SH 130,” said Barrientos aide Graham Keever). The funds will have to come from somewhere – else – if the bulk of the committee’s recommendations are to survive at council, which is scheduled to take them up Jan. 26.

– Wells Dunbar

## BONDS FOR BIKES

The bike racks at City Hall were full last Thursday night for the final public meeting of the **Citizen’s Bond Election Advisory Committee**, the cycles’ owners in search of big-time cash to fund a series of ambitious on- and off-road **bicycle infrastructure projects**. This week, however, as the committee finalized its recommendations, cyclists learned that while none of the \$2 million in funds recommended for bikeways was cut, they will receive none of the \$18 million in extra funds requested Thursday by groups such as the **Texas Bike Coalition**, the **Austin Cycling Association**, and **Austin Metro Trails and Greenways**.

The additional dough was intended to fund projects such as trails and bike facilities along the new **SH 130 toll road**, extending the slow-to-be-built **Lance Armstrong Bikeway** beyond the city limits all the way to Manor, installing the long-postponed **Town Lake Boardwalk**, which would bridge a gap in the waterfront trail east of the *American-Statesman* to the youth hostel, plus the Southwest Greenbelt trail, designed to run from Barton Springs to the Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center.

Committee member and bike commuter **David Sullivan** said cycling advocates simply rolled out the high-dollar requests too late in the game. As community outreach Chair (and former *Chronicle* City editor) **Mike Clark-Madison** pointed out at Thursday’s meeting,



Offshore wind farms

For those who demand clean energy, but simply can’t wait until March for electricity, AE spokesman **Ed Clark** said new and existing conventional accounts can be transferred to GreenChoice with a simple phone call. Once the last of the current batch of GreenChoice energy is raffled off, he said, a new batch will follow in the coming months – but, as in all previous offerings, the 10-year fixed energy rate likely will initially be more costly than the utility’s brown power.

– Daniel Mottola

## GET IT WHILE IT’S GREEN

**Austin Energy** customers calling to sign up for the utility’s **GreenChoice** program have been out of luck lately, being told that the **100% renewable energy service** is sold out and to try back in a few weeks. Actually, that’s not completely accurate – the current batch of wind-generated energy, precontracted in fixed 10-year increments, is nearing its end, but enough supply actually remains for an estimated 1,500 residential customers and 200 businesses. And now AE, as spotlighted in a City Hall press conference Wednesday, will hold a **raffle** for the **remaining GreenChoice subscriptions** – whose 10-year fixed rate, following a fuel charge hike this month, is actually cheaper than AE’s conventionally generated energy.

“We believe this is the first time since coal initiated the industrial revolution in the 1700s that, side by side, wind and solar power has come out cheaper than coal,” said Council Member **Brewster McCracken**, who is coor-

dinating the GreenChoice remodel and PR push. Beginning this week, there will be application cards all over Austin to enter the raffle, which will remain open through the end of February, McCracken said, with the drawing expected in March. McCracken said the raffle will “build **public awareness** across the state and the nation that investment in clean energy is paying off since it’s now cheaper than coal, gas, and nuke power,” while serving as a **waiting list** to gauge how much more wind power Austin Energy should contract.

**Andrew Donoho**, a member of the city’s Resource Management Commission, which reviews water and energy conservation issues, sharply disagrees with this process, noting that all four installments of GreenChoice since its inception in 2000 have sold out. “Austin Energy is not being aggressive in bringing in more GreenChoice energy. They’ve got demand they’re not satisfying,” he said.

“Austin Energy is run by **brown power** [fossil fuels] executives,” he said, which led the utility to embrace **natural gas**, the price of

which has risen faster than any other energy source. He faulted City Council for “under-managing” the utility, allowing its executives to make “long-term political decisions ... as to what kind of fuel we use, that will have 20-to-50-year cost structure implications.” Such decisions should be a matter of public debate, he said, and suggested that AE look to **coastal wind farms** now being developed, capable of producing steady energy at hot midday peak times, unlike **West Texas wind farms**, which produce most energy on cold nights.

McCracken described two **competing strategies** regarding GreenChoice: Both hold that the program is better than consuming coal or gas energy, but one favors “keeping it quiet” because the supply isn’t there, while the other advocates “making people aware because with consumer pressure, there is more desire to create supply.” He acknowledged that Austin’s desire for green energy is not being met. “GreenChoice is a good economic bet, and we need to be investing more, but there is not enough supply to satisfy demand.”



any funding increases at this point would have to be subtracted from another area. "Everyone respects everyone else's turf and everyone realizes that sacrifices have been made," Sullivan said. Cyclists should take comfort in the fact that no bikeway funds were cut, he said – of the six transportation subcategories, bikeways and sidewalks were the only two to escape a trimming. Sullivan said \$10 million remains from 2000 bonds for bikeways – \$4 million is still earmarked for the (maybe posthumous at this rate) Lance Armstrong Bikeway, and at least \$4 million for trails is included in the open spaces category of this bond package's recommendations. Speaking on behalf of the 1,500-member Austin Cycling Association, **Preston Tyree** reminded the commissioners of the difference between affordable housing – one of the night's oft-discussed bond items – and **affordable living**, in which he said there are easy ways to get where one needs to go without depending heavily on a car. The added funds, he said, were needed to unify roadway money designated for bike lane striping, federal transportation funds for bike facilities, and for the vast connectivity and tourism possibilities that the SH 130 trails and Lance Armstrong Bikeway extension hold.

Texas Bike Coalition Executive Director **John Stallings** brought the vision of the latter two projects home, saying towns including

Georgetown, Hutto, Pflugerville, and Round Rock are eager and ready to link up to SH 130 bike paths, and pointing to an **Envision Central Texas** survey where 70% of respondents favored safe bike facilities. He also suggested that the city take a fresh look at its bike and trail plan and prioritize bike project phasing, "to get the most people on bikes and out of cars the fastest," the "most cost-effective way to relieve congestion."

City of Austin Bike Program Coordinator **Colly Kreidler** said a bike plan review is under way. More than 18 miles of new bike lanes have been recently completed, but more funds are needed to review areas that weren't part of Austin when the bike plan was adopted in 1996, as well as to implement new facilities where possible, Kreidler said.

**Chris Symmank**, a bike mechanic and bicycle commuting and maintenance teacher at REI, asked for improvements to offer safe transitions across main arterial roads like Highway 183, Loop 360, and I-35, which he called "a real dare to cross." Symmank fondly recalled the bikeways of Davis and Sacramento, Calif., which include striped, bike-only two-lane roads with separate traffic lights, turn lanes, and banked turns. As evidence of the demand for bike facilities, he said hundreds of people have come into his North Austin shop interested in bicycle commuting – which, he added, is a great stress reducer. – *Daniel Mottola*

## RATHER VISITS, WEIGHS IN ON LOCAL AMD DEBATE

Iconic TV anchor **Dan Rather** waded into the debate over **Advanced Micro Devices'** proposed development plans Monday night, expressing his love for **Barton Springs** in a speech sponsored by the microchip company. "If anybody thinks that by speaking here I'm endorsing AMD, let me make it clear that I am not," the native Texan told the audience at the Paramount Theatre.

A handful of protesters carried signs and distributed leaflets outside the event, the first installment of public broadcasting affiliate **KLRU's** Engaging Speaker Series, which was "presented" by AMD (and co-sponsored by *The Austin Chronicle*). Perky AMD employees dressed in polo-shirt uniforms manned the doors and a state trooper was stationed in the lobby. Before the talk, a video montage of Rather's career was followed by a PowerPoint slide show assuring the audience, over and over again, that AMD is an "active and responsible corporate citizen," amid photos of happy and smiling polo-shirt clad suburban-bots. Rather was introduced by AMD marketing vice-president **John Volkmann**, who used the term "thought leaders."

Although it apparently didn't bother KLRU management, Rather was clearly uncomfortable with the degree of AMD's role in the event, delaying the start of his talk on media issues to separate himself from the company. While he stopped short of criticizing AMD's plan to build its corporate campus over the **Edwards Aquifer**, he said he hoped the two sides would find "common ground in protecting natural resources," and appeared to choke up talking about the time he spends at Barton Springs with his family. "We love Barton Springs and the aquifer, and we take it seriously," he said, drawing applause from the audience.

Rather, 74, appeared close to tears at several points during the talk. Early on he grew emotional discussing the troops serving in Iraq, asking the audience for a few seconds of silence to honor their sacrifice. The bulk of his talk was a boilerplate call for better journalism standards and more international coverage. Although he carefully avoided specifics, he said the news industry, in general, "needs a spinal transplant."

One thing Rather was not going to discuss: the much-debated **60 Minutes** piece on President Bush's National Guard service, which left a dark cloud over his departure from the anchor desk. Asked if producer **Mary Mapes** "took a hit" for him, he grew testy. "No, and I didn't take one for her," he said. And he made it clear that he wasn't going to talk about the story further. "I've moved forward," he said.

– *Kevin Brass*



At a speech on media issues sponsored by **Advanced Micro Devices**, former CBS News anchor **Dan Rather** explicitly distanced himself from AMD's decision to relocate over the Edwards Aquifer.

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# AISD Gets the Ball Rolling on High School Redesign

Slice! Dice! Mix! Puree! On Thursday the **Austin ISD board of trustees** grappled with the proper recipe for high school success, the latest step of a multiyear process known as **high school redesign**. Redesign, or breaking large high schools into “educational condominiums” of autonomous schools-within-schools, is the Big Idea in the educational policy world – for evidence, one need only view the consultant-studded attendance list of the meeting, and the sweet aroma of a \$1.5 million redesign grant from the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** that now permeates AISD. Already a year into the discussion, each AISD high school will this spring develop a plan to help transform Austin’s high school landscape from 11 comprehensive schools into a “portfolio” of these specialized **small learning communities** (SLCs). (The basic recipe is on display at **Johnston High**, which this fall rearranged itself into humanities, science, and business academies of a few hundred kids each.) However, what the discussion showed was that the high-profile, much-wonked-about business of school-slicing and academy-launching can’t work without addressing harder issues of equity.

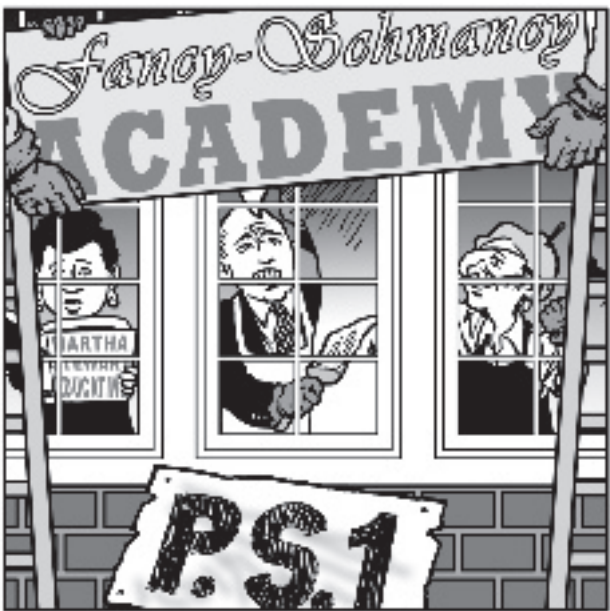
“You can’t simply say, ‘We want to take this school and chop it into four parts because that’s what Gates gave us money to do,’” said **Steve Phillips**, a redesign expert from Brooklyn College. “That will work for five years and Gates will think his money was well spent until he gets to year six.”

The idea behind SLCs is that a 300-student academy focused on, say, science allows a science-loving kid to better know her peers and teachers, which in turn helps her care about linear equations and Washington crossing the Delaware. It has another potential as well: If every high school in AISD becomes, in effect, a confederation of specialized academies, it could help AISD achieve the long-elusive goal of diverse campuses. “If there’s a system that’s always routing all your lowest performing kids to one place, this is a chance to do something different,” said Phillips. “We do know that when they’re in a more heterogeneous environment, there’s more of a chance that more of them will do better.”

According to Texas Education Agency data, low-income students at high-performing

schools like Anderson and Bowie lag behind their middle-class peers in the desks beside them. However, they also outperform students in schools where virtually everyone is poor, showing that heterogeneity does matter. AISD as a whole demonstrates this phenomenon: A recent **National Assessment of Educational Progress** study showed AISD students outperforming their urban peers, even when you break the numbers down by race and class – AISD’s poor students beat other poor students, AISD’s black students beat other black students, and so on. While good teachers and curricula were at the root of this success, the fact that AISD and the other top-performing district in the study – Charlotte, N.C. – are “only” about half poor (compared to upward of 80% and 90% in other urban districts) also play a role.

It’s a delicate balance, however – as trustee **John Fitzpatrick** pointed out at Thursday’s meeting, AISD must serve both a low-income populations and middle-class families who can and do bail for private, charter, or suburban schools that offer, among other things, less diversity. In the 2004-05 school year, AISD had 6,957 kindergarteners but only 5,451 eighth-graders. This isn’t just “white flight”: As **LBJ High** principal **Patrick Patterson** pointed out, black middle-class families leave for Pflugerville or Manor, and Trustee **Cheryl Bradley** added that motivated low-income parents transfer their kids away from Reagan. As AISD tries to develop academies that will convince more of these families to stay, it will have to find a way to deal with the reputation and buzz that says there are certain schools to which good students do not go. This is a concern voiced by Johnston director **Celina Estrada-Russell**, who this fall launched her redesigned campus, replete with snazzy new academies, excited teachers, and scores of community partners, only to see many of the most committed families continue to transfer their students away. “We have an intelligence flight,” she said. “A talent flight. We have 13 students in the band.”



DOUG POTTER

The portfolio idea, then, could be an opportunity to ditch some of the names many AISD parents now indelibly associate with failure and violence: Instead of one big **Reagan High** (for example), or even three mini-Reagans, AISD could have three all-new academies hosted in the building formerly known as Reagan. Implementing the portfolio vision across the district, however, will be complicated by neighborhood loyalty and memories of failed experiments in magnet programs, plus the fact that those schools that are already performing well simply don’t feel change is needed.

“The community views the school as successful and it is, for most kids on most days,” said interim **Bowie High** principal **Carol Mills McKenzie**. “It’s very difficult to make change in an organization that views itself as very, very good.”

So far, AISD has set nothing in stone, so ideas about portfolios, academies, mixing, and matching is all tentative. AISD strongly encourages the community to join in the discussion (among other reasons, because AISD needs to demonstrate its commitment to community engagement to the Gates Foundation to get more money). The issues promise to be difficult, and the discussion at times tense, but those who care about public education will no doubt agree with MacKenzie’s final word on the subject.

“It is better to struggle with a sick jackass,” she told the trustees, “than to carry that wood yourself.”

– Rachel Proctor May

## THE LEARNIN’ CALENDAR

Should the **2006-07 school year** begin on Aug. 15 or Aug. 21? The **AISD board of trustees** has to decide, and has been busily soliciting public input on the matter. According to state law, school cannot start earlier than the week in which Aug. 21 falls unless the district gets a waiver from the **Texas Education Agency**. Most Texas districts ignore the law and start mid-August, however – last year, about three in four Texas districts received waivers and sent students back to school as early as Aug. 1.

A committee of parents, teachers, and administrators will make a final recommendation for the trustees, who will vote on Jan. 23. The committee appears to be leaning toward the earlier start. At a recent hearing, however, about a dozen parents showed up to testify vigorously in favor of a later start date. The parents bemoaned the annoyance of winter break starting 10 days before Christmas. They bewailed the health hazards of sending kids back to school (or band practice) in mid-August when the asphalt is a-sizzlin’, and pointed out that those hot summer days also drive up the district’s air-conditioning costs. The parents said a later start could be achieved if the district got rid of some of the teacher development days that translate into three-day weekends for students, which they said created child-care hardships for working parents, anyway. The parents also expressed concern that the district hadn’t made enough of an effort to make sure parents knew about the hearing. “How much is our opinion really, really wanted?” asked **Lila Levinson**, who has students at Austin High and Fulmore Middle School.

An earlier start has advantages as well: Because so many districts start school early, a later start puts students at a bit of a disadvantage in their football games and standardized tests. An early start enables the district to end the first semester before winter break, and because it corresponds better with college schedules, it makes it easier for teachers to beef up their qualifications over the summer.

Parents wanting to vote one way or the other can e-mail the trustees at **trustees@austinsisd.org**.

– Rachel Proctor May

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Anyce Joe Chanel Obey, supported by family members, mourns her mother.

PHOTOS BY JANA BIRCHUM

## Remembering Hazel Obey

Anyce **Hazel Marie Falke-Obey** "lived, died, and made a difference," the Rev. **Jesse Jackson**, Sr., told hundreds of mourners gathered at the First Baptist Church on Jan. 6. Obey, whose civic career spanned more than three decades, died Dec. 30; she was 62.

In a stirring eulogy that capped a nearly

three-hour service, Jackson reflected the fire Obey brought to her civic and professional career — as an 18-year member of the **Democratic National Committee**, vice chair of the **Texas Democratic Party**, life member of the **NAACP**, president of the **Texas State Rainbow Coalition** (an arm of the organization Jackson founded), as well as in her work for former state Rep. **Wilhelmina Delco**, Texas Gov. **Mark White**, Attorney General **Jim Mattox**, and Land Commissioner **Garry Mauro**, among others. "She spoke truth to power," Jackson said. "She knew the Mayor. Elected officials. Governors. Senators. Presidents. She didn't just pray for them, or pray for relief from them. She sought to elect the best of them and un-elect the worst of them. She used private virtue and morality to address public immorality."

Among those gathered to celebrate Obey's life were numerous elected officials — many of whom she helped to elect. "She was a strong woman," U.S. Rep. **Maxine Waters**, D-Calif., a long time friend of Obey's, told reporters. Above all, said state Sen. **Rodney Ellis**, D-Houston — who said he was friends with Obey "from the moment" he first came to Austin some 30 years ago — Obey was a woman who "opened doors" for others. She strove to create equal opportunities for African-Americans, to increase black participation in civic life — as elected leaders as well as voters — and to better the lives of all in the community, "especially the less fortunate," said Travis Co. Judge **Sam Biscoe**.

Obey was born in San Antonio and in 1961 married the Rev. **James E. Obey**, a Baptist minister, two years before the couple came to Austin, where the Rev. Obey became senior pastor at the **David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church**. Obey's religious faith was at the core of her public life, Jackson and others pointed out. She was the epitome of a Good Samaritan, and "Christlike" in her refusal to "adjust to the culture of public immorality," Jackson said. "Most Christians conform to the culture. But we are challenged to be

transformed, to change the culture, not simply to adjust to it." Jesus, he said, "went counterculture," as did Obey, making her a "transforming force" in the culture. As an homage to her mother's ability to jump-start a cause or campaign, daughter **Marilyn Victoria Obey** said that when she first got the news that her mother had died, she said there was just one thought in her head: "The only thing I could think about is [that] there was a meeting in heaven and God called my mom to come home ... to get [in there] to help [get things] organized."

Obey's social commitments were varied but nonetheless focused on "helping make Travis County a better place," said Biscoe; Obey spearheaded a task force to aide the **integration of AISD**, helped start the **Texas Coalition of Black Democrats**, and spoke out in concern about **Austin Police use-of-force policies** and apparent disparate treatment of minorities in the wake of the June 2003 shooting death of 20-year-old **Jesse Lee Owens**, her great nephew. Obey "never wavered in her pursuit of social justice," former President **Bill Clinton**, who had been friends with Obey since he and Hillary came to Austin in the Seventies with the McGovern presidential campaign, wrote in a letter read to mourners by the Rev. **Joseph Parker**, who took over as pastor of David Chapel after the Rev. Obey's death. And Obey left the world "far better than she found it." — *Jordan Smith*

Daughter Marilyn Victoria Obey sings a lament.



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# From Hard Time to New Beginning: Pro Con puts ex-offenders to work

Standing on the southeast corner of Ben White and I-35 in front of the huge, garish building that houses the **South Austin Marketplace** – a privately owned transitional living facility for ex-offenders, the working poor, and the homeless – one would never guess that beyond its fortress-like stone wall, at the center of the structure, lies a landscaped courtyard with fountains and lush, exotic plants. The space has both an industrial and palatial feel, and on a recent Wednesday afternoon, it was bustling with activity.

There are about eight men in the courtyard, many of whom have reason for a renewed sense of hope and purpose. Some push rakes, tending to the courtyard’s pebbled landscape, others converse or smoke cigarettes, while some study newspapers or books. **Pro Con**, a new nonprofit designed to help ex-offenders and current parolees find jobs, opened in November within South Austin Marketplace, connecting the men with employers – a valuable opportunity that is hard for people in their situation to come by. Take **Larry Payne** for example. When Payne was released from a six-year prison sentence, he began searching for a job using newspaper ads and temp agencies, but doors shut as soon as employers learned of his conviction, he said. “A lot of times, being a felon, some places won’t even give you a chance,” said Payne, “and that’s all we need really is a chance, to get a new start again.” The day after he approached Pro Con, Payne said, he found steady work with a construction contractor.

“Even with a misdemeanor, it’s extremely difficult to get a job,” and drug convictions make matters even worse, said Pro Con office manager **Brad Wiley**. And considering the limited resources with which most men leave incarceration, it’s only a matter of time before many end up on the streets, added South Austin Marketplace and Pro Con founder **Rosemary Follis**. Wiley, an ex-offender himself, said Pro Con’s services are absolutely a means to an end to homelessness and panhandling – two community issues recently spotlighted by the institution of new ordinances banning panhandling from dusk to dawn and prohibiting sleeping in public spaces downtown.

Together, South Austin Marketplace and Pro Con believe they can break Austin’s cycle of



JANA BIRCHUM

**Pro Con founder Rosemary Follis and manager (and ex-offender) Brad Wiley use their organization to help former convicts gain employment and transition into productive, crime-free lives.**

crime, incarceration, and homelessness by creating opportunity. First they need prospective employers and the city to take notice, however. Acting as a liaison between workers and employers, Pro Con boasts that its workers are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, have been drug tested, and can be dropped off at a job site with tools, gear, and even a sack lunch. Follis pointed out that her organizations are among very few in town – if not the only ones – to offer job and housing services that are not faith-based and not contingent upon attending a particular church. Pro Con’s main shortcoming, Wiley said, is that being a nonprofit, it lacks an advertising budget to reach prospective employers. “I’d like to see the city work with us and send us contractors,” he said. Wiley even suggested Pro Con coordinate with the city to open a second labor camp, as a southern companion to the overcrowded, city-run **First Workers** day labor center on North I-35. Bob Flocke, spokesman for the **Austin Travis County Health and Human Services Department**, the agency that operates the labor center, said “there is a need for more labor organizations,” but additional locations are not in the city budget. Flocke acknowledged Austin has a problem of chronic homelessness. “People come out of incarceration and have no home waiting for them and no job. It becomes a cycle,” he said. “Having a steady job is one way to address chronic homelessness.”

– Daniel Mottola

## ANTI-SCALITO CAMP GETS VOCAL

To mark the start of Supreme Court nominee **Samuel Alito**’s senate confirmation hearings, representatives of the 12-organization-strong **Texas Coalition for an Independent Judiciary** on Jan. 9 voiced their opposition to Alito’s bid with a stack of petitions containing more than 41,000 signatures, which they delivered to the Austin, Dallas, and Houston offices of Republican Sen. **John Cornyn**, who sits on the 18-member Senate Judiciary Committee charged with vetting Alito’s bid to replace retiring high court Justice **Sandra Day O’Connor**.

Although the petitions are unlikely to sway Cornyn’s apparent support for Alito, the TCIJ – which includes **NARAL Pro-Choice Texas** and **People for the American Way** – isn’t the only group concerned with Alito’s views on issues such as civil liberties and reproductive rights. Last week, 500 law school professors signed on

to a letter addressed to Sen. **Arlen Specter**, R-Pa., chair of the Judiciary Committee, and to Sen. **Patrick Leahy**, D-Vt., the committee’s ranking minority member, explaining their opposition. The letter, signed Jan. 5, describes Alito, who has served on the **3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals** for 15 years, as a jurist with a “record of trying to push the law sharply to the right.” Although President **George W. Bush** pledged to nominate a justice who “embraces the principle of judicial restraint” to replace the centrist O’Connor, the lawyers wrote, “Alito often reaches his [legal] conclusions by overturning or weakening federal statutes, diminishing constitutional safeguards, and hollowing out precedent.” Among the signatories are three professors from the **University of Houston Law Center** and two from **St. Mary’s University School of Law** in San Antonio. Interestingly, no UT Law professors signed on to the opposition letter. To read it, go to [www.allianceforjustice.org](http://www.allianceforjustice.org).

– Jordan Smith

## CODEPINK CO-FOUNDER IN THE POKEY

CodePink co-founder **Diane Wilson** has concluded her fall book tour – promoting her autobiographical *An Unreasonable Woman: A True Story of Shrimpers, Politicos, Polluters, and the Fight for Seadrift, Texas* – with a stint in the **Victoria Co. Jail**. She’s serving a 150-day sentence for **criminal trespassing** charges stemming from an incident in 2002, when she climbed a **Dow Chemical** plant tower and hung a banner from it reading “Justice for Bhopal.” Bhopal, India, is the site of the 1984 **Union Carbide chemical leak** that killed thousands.

**Warren Anderson** – then CEO of Union Carbide, now a subsidiary of Dow – was subsequently arrested by the Indian government. After his company posted the \$5 million bail, he left India, never returning to face culpable homicide charges, despite India’s extradition requests. In her continuing effort to draw out the aging fugitive, Wilson recently posted his arrest warrant on his lawn, along with a sign that read, “Wanted for homicide in India.” She also offered to turn herself in for the trespassing charges if Anderson would return to India to face his day in court.

Before that day could come, however, Wilson attended a Dec. 5 **Tom DeLay** fundraiser in Houston, where, during a speech by Vice-President **Dick Cheney**, she unfurled yet another discomfiting banner: “Corporate greed kills – from Bhopal to Baghdad.” Her subsequent arrest landed her in a Harris Co. jail for five days before her transfer to Victoria Co. for the criminal trespassing sentence. Once she finishes her sentence – she’ll get out on March 18, if she exhibits good behavior – she’ll face charges in Houston for the DeLay infraction, summarized by her lawyer, **Greg Gladden**, as “apparently impersonating a dead Republican.”

Those who’d like to support Wilson’s continued advocacy work can donate to her cause through the **Environmental Health Fund**: 617/524-6018.

– Nora Ankrum

## OFF THE HOOK

On Jan. 4, a Travis Co. grand jury declined to indict **seven Austin Police officers** involved in a September altercation that ended with the in-custody death of 33-year-old **Michael Clark**. According to the **Travis Co. District Attorney’s Office**, the grand jury cleared officers **Blaine Eiben**, **Robin Denton**, **Robert Pewitt**, **Douglas Drake**, **Jesse Borunda**, **James Morgan**, and **Robert Schmitt** of any criminal responsibility in Clark’s death. The end of the criminal inquiry into the incident marks the start of an administrative review by **APD Internal Affairs** investigators, which police say will take about four weeks to complete.

On Sept. 26, police working the department’s **Southeast Area Command** responded to a call for service on East William Cannon. When they arrived, they found Clark in an altercation with an, at press time, as-yet-unidentified woman. According to police, Clark was “displaying behavior that was violent and irrational.” The responding officers called for backup and eventually nine officers were on the scene trying to subdue Clark. During the struggle, police say, Clark bit one officer and injured another’s shoulder. Clark was sprayed with pepper spray and struck three times with a Taser before police could arrest him. Shortly thereafter, however, Clark went into “medical distress,” and was transported to the hospital where he died that afternoon. According to Deputy Medical Examiner **Elizabeth Peacock**, Clark died as a result of “massive intravascular sickling” brought on by PCP and cocaine-induced “excited delirium.” Interestingly, Peacock also concluded that neither the Taser strikes nor the heat of the day played any role in Clark’s death – a conclusion that, at press time, was still being reviewed by a panel of local medical experts, of which Peacock is also a member. (For more, see “What Killed Michael Clark?” Dec. 2, 2005.)

– Jordan Smith

## WEED WATCH: HAPPY MEDI-POT NEW YEAR

The year started off with a bang for **medi-pot** advocates, who scored a victory last week when Rhode Island legislators successfully overturned a gubernatorial veto, making the state the 11th to legalize medi-mari for sick and dying patients. On Jan. 3, the state House voted 59-13 in favor of the **Edward O. Hawkins and Thomas C. Slater Medical Marijuana Act**, overriding a veto by Gov. **Donald Carcieri**, codifying legislation that allows seriously ill patients who have registered with the state to grow up to 12 pot plants or to buy up to 2.5 ozs. of pot at a time.

In other sativa-related news, members of the Denver grassroots group **Safer Alternative for Enjoyable Recreation**, or SAFER – the group that scored a victory in November when Denver voters passed its bid to legalize possession of up to an ounce of pot by adults – announced on Dec. 28 that they’re taking their efforts statewide and launching a bid to get the legalization measure on the statewide ballot this year. They’ll need nearly 68,000 valid voter signatures to land the **Colorado Alcohol-Marijuana Equalization Initiative** on the ballot, which doesn’t appear to daunt SAFER Campaign Director **Mason Tvert**, who told reporters he plans to gather 100,000 signatures for the measure. Predictably, Colorado officials don’t appear too pleased with Tvert’s plans – indeed, since passage of the Denver initiative, city officials have reportedly made good on their promise to ignore the voter initiative, and continue to bust adults for pot possession. Colorado Attorney General **John Suthers** told the Associated Press that he welcomes a “head-on, outright debate” on legalization. “[M]y personal opinion is it would be terrible public policy to legalize possession of any amount of marijuana,” he said. “The information that we now have is that marijuana is a dangerous drug.” Tired official lines notwithstanding, if Tvert’s push is successful, Colorado would become only the second state (after Alaska) to legalize pot possession by adults.

– Jordan Smith



# THE HIGHTOWER REPORT BY JIM HIGHTOWER

## THE NAM'S MESS

If you create a mess, you don't then get to complain about there being a mess.

Apparently, the National Association of Manufacturers missed this lesson in kindergarten – probably too busy bullying other kids. The NAM recently issued a report deploring the widening gap between the number of highly skilled workers in America and the industry's need for such workers. Eighty-one percent of manufacturers report a moderate to severe shortage of technically skilled workers, the report says.

Hello ... NAM ... might you have had a big hand in this mess? Let's talk taxes, for example. The NAM has been a prominent proponent and lobbyist behind George W.'s massive tax cuts for corporations and the wealthy. One result of this is that funding for job training and other educational programs has been slashed, at a time it should've been dramatically increased. Also, notice that when member corporations of NAM build or expand factories, they routinely demand that local school districts exempt them from the property taxes that fund technical education.

And who is it that has been leading the charge to bust labor unions? Why, it's been the NAM and its members doing this! Yes, they gain a lower-wage, more compliant workforce by ousting unions – but they lose something important to them and to our country: a partner in job training. It receives very little notice in the establishment media, but a chief advantage offered by unions is highly skilled workers who not only go through the unions' top-notch apprentice programs, but also are constantly updating their skills through ongoing union training sessions.

To say that America lacks a deep pool of skilled workers is to blame workers for a mess that those in power – including the NAM – have made. Rather than whine, the NAM should press Congress and states to launch a fully funded crash program to create a nationwide system of training academies

that will tap into that pool of talent that now is stuck in dead-end jobs at McDonald's or Wal-Mart, giving them the skills to move up.

## A QUIET VICTORY OVER HUCKSTERISM

Shhhhh. What's that sound?

Nothing. It's silence you hear – blessed silence. That's probably because your home telephone is no longer ringing ceaselessly with a barrage of infuriating telemarketing solicitations, most of which came as you were sitting down to dinner or doing anything more enjoyable than trying to fend off some huckster on the phone.

The welcome change from intrusive commercial cacophony to a soothing quietude in your own home has come in only two years' time – and it came because ordinary folks like you demanded it. In 2003, hawkers of everything from credit cards to aluminum siding were making 104 million calls every day into our homes.

Fed up, millions of Americans shrieked in unison: Stop it! The opposition was so broad and so intense that even Washington couldn't ignore it (plus, Congress critters were also getting the irritating calls at their homes, so they could identify with the public instead of the industry for a change). The result was the creation of the National Do Not Call Registry.

By going to [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov) or by calling 888/382-1222, you can put your phone number on the registry and essentially ban telemarketers from calling you. Since 2003, when the registry opened for business, 109 million Americans have added their phone numbers to it – thus, the refreshing sound all across the country of phones not ringing.

The ban is not total – for example, any company from which you've bought something can use the "established business relationship" loophole to call you. But you can tell them to put you on their own do-not-call list, and they must stop calling. Another power you have is simply to refuse to give out your phone number when store checkout clerks ask for it.

To keep saying no to telemarketers, who're constantly seeking cracks in the do-not-call system, contact the Electronic Privacy Information Center: 202/483-1140.

*Jim Hightower is the bestselling author of Let's Stop Beating Around the Bush, on sale from Viking Press. For more information, visit [www.jimhightower.com](http://www.jimhightower.com).*

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# West Side Showdown

The new political year begins with a four-way sprint for House District 48

BY AMY SMITH

The 2006 election cycle in Texas will be given an early test run Tuesday, Jan. 17, as voters in House District 48 go to the polls to choose a successor to Republican Rep. Todd Baxter, who resigned abruptly on Nov. 1. (Officially, Baxter stepped down to spend more time with his family; two weeks after his resignation, he was hired as a lobbyist by the Texas Cable and Telecommunications Association.)

The setting for the season premiere – a key swing district covering West Austin and western Travis Co. – should provide a useful weather vane for party strategists looking to gauge the political winds before the campaign season hits full throttle. Republicans need a victory in this race to show that they’re still at the top of their game – notwithstanding the taint of Tom DeLay, Michael Scanlon, Jack Abramoff, Ralph Reed ... well, you get the picture. “If they were to lose the seat it would send a bad message, that they’re in retreat on some pretty important battlegrounds,” says lobbyist Bill Miller, who has close ties to the Republican leadership and is supporting GOP candidate Ben Bentzin in the four-way race. “It’s a district that Republicans *should* win, and if they don’t win, there’s a problem.”

On the other hand, if the No. 2 party is able to reclaim the seat lost in a bitter 2002 showdown, Miller continued, “It would start the year out in a tremendous fashion for Democrats. You couldn’t ask for a better start to the election year. It would be a real boost for morale.”

The District 48 campaign season blew in unexpectedly early, due to Baxter’s hasty retreat (trailing DeLay baggage tied to the financing of his 2002 race), immediately followed by the GOP leadership’s rush to create a clear path for Bentzin (defeated in a 2002 run against District 14 state Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos). Gov. Perry quickly called a special election, straddling the holidays, and it has provided little time for voters to become familiar with the candidates – but the short time span presumably boosts the chances of Bentzin to become an instant incumbent. A novice Republican challenger, Robert Reynolds, mysteriously got cold feet and pulled out of the race the day after filing. But two experienced Democrats on the ballot – educational experts Donna Howard and Kathy Rider – along with the wild-card presence of Libertarian Ben Easton, could hold Bentzin under 50%, which would throw the House race into a run-off.

And rather than wait quietly for the primaries and the November election during a nominal legislative interim, the winner in Tuesday’s race will take a seat in yet another special session on school finance, which Perry is expected to convene after the March primary. “This race is about one thing and one thing only: Who will represent the community in this spring’s special session on public school finance?” said Democratic strategist Kelly Fero, who is assisting the Howard campaign.

## Instant Agenda

It’s uncertain whether the GOP-dominated Legislature will be able to break its cycle of failures on school finance, even with a recent state Supreme Court decision mandating property tax reform and Perry’s appointment of former state Comptroller John Sharp, a Democrat, to head an interim committee charged with drawing up recommended changes to the tax system that funds public education. In a nutshell, the debate turns on the question of where to shift the tax burden once the Legislature cuts property taxes. Lawmakers deadlocked on the issue last year, with the business lobby and the GOP leadership on one side and public school advocates, Democrats, and some moderate Republicans on the other. Beyond the tax-allocation debate, the two sides hold sharp disagreements on the amount of funding actually needed to run the education system, as well as on the long-running efforts by social conservatives to add “school reform” – e.g., “accountability,” budget-cutting, even a private school voucher program – into the school finance equation.

Lawmakers have until June 1 to come up with a new tax structure to fund education. In its November ruling, the court determined that the current school property tax system has effectively become a state property tax, forbidden by the Texas Constitution. Previously, a district court judge had ordered lawmakers to fix the funding system by Oct. 1, 2005, but lawmakers missed the deadline in both the regular and two special sessions. Despite that overall failure, school advocates scored at least one major victory with the bipartisan defeat of a voucher proposal.

In both the school finance issue and the voucher fight, Rep. Baxter frustrated many constituents, in a district friendly to public education, with votes that consistently demonstrated his unquestioning allegiance to House Speaker Tom Craddick and the business lobby. The high-profile debates played out in a series of razor-thin votes, making this District 48 race particularly crucial to both parties. A win for Bentzin, expected to follow the GOP leadership direction in the footsteps of his predecessor, would make Craddick a happy man.

And if Craddick is happy, chances are good that public school advocates will not be. The Parent PAC, a pro-public-ed committee that grew out of a reaction against the Legislature’s abysmal school performance last year, is keeping a close eye on this 48 race. “There were many tie votes in the Texas House in 2005 on critical education bills, so a new Austin legislator could be the tiebreaker,” said Carolyn Boyle, a co-founder of the group. “We need a lawmaker who will consistently be on the side of public school parents and PTA leaders. Austin’s new leader should have the courage to



“It’s a district that Republicans *should* win, and if they don’t win, there’s a problem.”

– GOP consultant Bill Miller

stand with parents and not succumb to pressure by power brokers promoting ideological education agendas.”

In that vein, Democrats point to Bentzin’s ties to right-wing voucher proponent James Leininger and big industry lobbyists, such as Mike Toomey, Dan Shelley, and Buddy Jones, who co-hosted a fundraiser for Bentzin in December. State Rep. Phil King served as the event’s “special honorary guest” – and for good reason. King, R-Weatherford, chairs the powerful House Committee on Regulated Industries and is one of Craddick’s most trusted lieutenants. (Baxter also held a seat on the committee before joining the lobby group.) Additionally, *Statesman* writer Laylan Copelin reported Jan. 8 that Bentzin hired Tom DeLay associate and criminal co-defendant John Colyandro to produce his campaign mailers in his 2002 senate race, paying him indirectly through a contract with the company that printed the material.

But Miller, the longtime Austin political consultant, insists that his friend Bentzin is nobody’s tool. “Bentzin’s hard to categorize,” he said. “He’s really his own man.”

All four candidates say their professional and community experience make them best qualified for a grueling job that comes with long hours and measly pay (although, as Baxter just demonstrated, the possibility of an eventual windfall). The winner of the special election will serve out the remainder of Baxter’s term, through the end of the year. To hold the seat into the next biennium, the victor will still need to win the March primary (with Bentzin and Easton running unopposed, and a third candidate, Andy Brown, joining the Democratic fray). Then it’s on to the general election in November.

## Following the (School) Money

Bentzin, 40, is a former Dell executive and a wealthy philanthropist active in civic and charitable endeavors. He runs a private equity firm, Boxcar Holdings, and until recently served as the CEO of the World Congress on Information Technology, which will convene in Austin in May. In 2002, he waged an unsuccessful run against Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos, in a \$1 million campaign that turned ugly at its close with Bentzin’s resort to a TV ad that featured police video footage of the veteran senator’s DWI arrest earlier that year. Despite Bentzin’s loss across Senate District 14 amid sharp criticism over the ad, the rookie candidate was the overwhelming favorite within District 48, where he clobbered Barrientos 58% to 42%. But Democrats insist that times have changed dramatically since the GOP swept the 2002 legislative races, and specifically that voters in this generally moderate district have grown wary of the Legislature’s sharp turn to the right – and with it, the virtual extinction of Anglo Democratic women in the House and Senate. “If Donna Howard or Kathy Rider win or place a strong second,” says Fero, “it will signal a continuing trend toward pulling Texas politics back to the mainstream middle.”

Bentzin is positioning himself as one of those moderates – who also happens to favor state-funded private school vouchers under certain circumstances, such as providing new opportunities for special-needs kids in low-performing schools. (Bentzin did not respond to several requests for interviews.) Howard and Rider both oppose voucher programs outright, as siphoning funding from public schools.

*continued on p.26*



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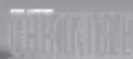
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District 48 Special Election

Election date: Tuesday, Jan. 17

Ben Bentzin (R) Donna Howard (D)  
Ben Easton (L) Kathy Rider (D)

- This race will go into a run-off if no candidate gets more than 50% of the vote.
- This is a special election to fill the unexpired term through this year only, including an anticipated special legislative session this spring.
- There will still be March party primaries, and a November general election, to fill the seat for 2007-08.
- See p.6 for more election info and the Chronicle endorsement.

Easton, a former school teacher who made two unsuccessful House bids in Houston, favors a grand libertarian plan that would phase out public education altogether in favor of complete privatization.

Bentzin’s campaign platform promises to work toward a “significant reduction” in property taxes, offset by spreading the burden of public education more broadly – though he has not yet directly addressed the touchy issues of business taxes vs. sales taxes. Bentzin also supports more local control for school districts, as well as accountability standards that would carry reward incentives.

“This race is about one thing and one thing only: Who will represent the community in this spring’s special session on public school finance?”

– Dem strategist Kelly Fero

Three candidates – Howard, Rider, and lawyer Andy Brown (residency requirements disqualified him from the special election) – have filed to run in the Democratic primary. But the outcome of Tuesday’s election could see two of the hopefuls bowing out of the race before March, thus freeing up fundraising dollars and support for a single candidate. (Although the Dem candidates say they have a “gentlemen’s agreement” for the primary, each gave the *Chronicle* a different interpretation of the terms – so it’s still in flux.)



JOHN ANDERSON

**BEN BENTZIN (R)**  
Supports a private school voucher program for at-risk students in low-performing schools; says his technology background would complement state and local efforts to create new jobs.

Howard, 54, is a registered nurse by training, but has become a public education activist as a former member of the Eanes school board and co-founder of the Texas Education Crisis Coalition, a grassroots group formed in 2003 to raise awareness of school funding issues. She has lost two bids for the State Board of Education, where conservatives now hold the majority. On school finance, Howard advocates applying a moderate, broad-based business tax to help shore up education funding. “If you have a broad-based business tax, even at a low rate, you can generate sufficient revenue – not only to significantly reduce property taxes, but also to bring in additional revenue,” she said. “This would provide the opportunity for economic growth and bring a certain amount of fiscal capacity and stability to a system that, right now, is unwieldy because it is so overly dependent on property taxes and sales taxes.” She says most people she’s talked to in the business community said they would support an across-the-board business tax. “Most people want to pay their fair share as long as there’s a level playing field, as well as accountability.”

Rider, 60, is a clinical social worker, with the longest record on education issues. In 1992,



JOHN ANDERSON

**DONNA HOWARD (D)**  
Favors a broad-based business tax to generate revenue for education and opposes a state-funded voucher program; says the state should work toward capturing its share of federal dollars to cover health care costs.

she jumped from the Parent-Teachers Association to the Austin school board, where she put in 10 years of unpaid service – eight as president – during some of the district’s most turbulent times, including a test-tampering scandal. During her tenure, she developed a reputation as a hands-on leader (or a micromanager, some would argue) who wasn’t afraid to ask tough questions of district staff.

Rider had considered running for the House seat in 2004, but said she scratched that idea in deference to Democrat Kelly White, who lost to Baxter by a mere 147 votes. For whatever reasons, Rider wasn’t willing to step aside for Howard, who appears to enter the race with a currently higher profile. (White is serving as Howard’s treasurer, although she, too, had considered running in the special election.) Rider’s supporters, on the other hand, believe her past name ID and her AISD school board experience make her likely to be a surprising dark horse in the race.

One reason the public education system is in trouble, Rider says, is that the current school tax structure is not indexed to inflation, nor does it include provisions for student



JOHN ANDERSON

**KATHY RIDER (D)**  
Supports closing business franchise tax loopholes and raising tobacco and alcohol taxes to replenish education funding; opposes state-funded voucher program; says she’ll work toward improvements in state’s mental health system.



**BEN EASTON (L)**  
Advocates limiting all facets of government, including the gradual elimination of the state’s public school system.

enrollment increases and other costs. “I see school finance as a crisis that nobody anticipated,” she said of the increasingly creaky system, designed in the early Nineties. Rider advocates closing the business franchise tax loophole and instituting a business activity tax. She also supports raising “sin taxes” on cigarettes and alcohol, which she said would net the state an additional \$3 billion.

Assuming state lawmakers will be able to move some kind of a school finance package out of the Legislature this time around – primarily aimed at reducing property taxes and moving them elsewhere – there’s no guarantee at all that it will also include sufficient funding for schools, or provide for adequate pay raises for teachers, or that it *won’t* include a private school voucher program. The only thing certain are the same old players, save for two newcomers: recently elected Rep. Ana Hernandez, D-Houston, replacing the late Joe Moreno in District 143, and whoever is finally the winner of the District 48 race. But it’ll be Tuesday, possibly even February in the event of a run-off, before the weather vane points us in one direction or the other.

West Side Showdown Update

Ben Bentzin has spent tens of thousands of dollars on heavily rotated TV ads leading up to the Jan. 17 special election. But the telegenic Republican millionaire refused to participate in a live broadcast of a candidates’ forum Wednesday night, Jan. 11 – until the event’s sponsor agreed to drastically limit televised access to the viewing public.

The hastily called election has left little time for candidates in the four-way race to stump for votes and raise funds. A televised forum sponsored by the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce would have given district voters a chance to view all four hopefuls in an unscripted light. It also would have provided precious air time for at least three of the hopefuls eager to convey their campaign platforms.

Donna Howard, Kathy Rider, and Ben Easton had all readily agreed to participate in the televised event, which would have aired Wednesday on the AISD cable access channel and been

rebroadcast periodically before next week’s election. The chamber initially agreed to scrap the TV cameras, but after a letter of complaint Tuesday from Travis Co. Democratic Party Chair Chris Elliott, the chamber and Bentzin renegotiated a new plan: Now, a taped broadcast of the event will air on Time Warner’s on-demand cable channel 1400, limiting access to TW digital cable subscribers instead of a broader audience of basic cable subscribers.

Without specifically naming Bentzin as the spoiler, the chamber defended its decision to acquiesce to his demands. “It was very important to the chamber that all the candidates participate in the forum,” said Saralee Tiede. “With any kind of forum like this, there is always some kind of negotiating that goes on.” The negotiating on the part of Bentzin’s campaign also included the chamber’s providing candidates with a list of questions in advance, while prohibiting audience questions altogether. In a 2004 candidates’ forum

the chamber hosted, audience members were invited to submit written questions to the moderator.

Howard and Rider both expressed dismay that one candidate in a four-way race was able to call the shots on the format. “I think it’s inappropriate,” said Rider. “It raises questions in my mind about why a candidate would want to run for office when he’s not willing to go before TV cameras.”

The incident mirrors a similar demand made by Baxter and two other Republican candidates in the 2004 House races. In that case, Baxter, along with Jack Stick and Alan Askew, essentially dictated the format of what was supposed to have been an unscripted candidates’ debate aired on KLRU-TV. Instead, the station agreed to the candidates’ demands for individual softball interviews. Stick and Askew went on to lose to Democrats Mark Strama and Patrick Rose, while Baxter won by only a couple of whiskers. – Amy Smith





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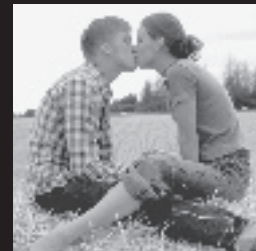


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# Snoring Out Loud

‘Statesman’ blunders with bland blogging

BY KEVIN BRASS

Last spring the *Austin American-Statesman*’s top editors, Rich Oppel and Fred Zipp, launched a blog on the *Statesman* Web site, announcing their intent to personally lead the paper’s charge into the hip new blogosphere. “We’ll keep it short and frequent,” Oppel assured readers, teasing them with the lively discourse to come. “Some days may be Fred alone, other days me alone. Who knows, on some days we could get a good Fred-and-Rich debate going,” he wrote, whipping the audience into a blog-thirsty frenzy.

Six months later, after sporadic postings often focused on snippy complaints about the paper, the Fred and Rich blog petered out, after a final posting perhaps coincidentally titled “Awkward conversations.” Zipp said in December it wasn’t worth his time, considering the minimal response to the editors’ musings from “what is at this point a small readership.” “For a blog to truly thrive it requires constant care and feeding,” said Zipp. But then three weeks later the blog suddenly reappeared, sending, at best, a mixed message about the paper’s enthusiasm for the wacky, high-paced blogosphere.

Blogging – the act of writing a form of Internet diary, or “Weblog” – represents a major new initiative by the Cox Newspapers-owned *Statesman* to find a perch in the modern media world, which is growing increasingly uninterested in stuffy old newspapers. With circulation sliding, the *Statesman* vigorously trumpets its Web sites, *Statesman.com* and *Austin360.com*, as the great new frontiers, where readers count more than subscribers and the paper’s profits aren’t siphoned off by those greedy paperboys. “Young people are gravitating more toward digital ways of getting news,” said Steve Outing, a senior editor at the Poynter Institute for Media Studies and online columnist for *Editor & Publisher*. “You want to be publishing to where the audience is.”

Considering that much of the *Statesman* today is remarkably similar to the *Statesman* of, say, 1957, the paper moved into the blog business with unusual authority and resources. Several *Statesman* staffers have been intermittently writing blogs for a while now, ranging from Chris Garcia’s tales of his trip to Vietnam to Rhiannon Gammill’s refreshingly snarky “Miss Adventure,” chronicling her nightlife and irritants. Their banter is regularly featured in the weekly entertainment insert *XL*, often providing the liveliest element of a section that frequently reads like a poorly researched Zagat guide.

## NOT YET READY FOR TAKEOFF

The *Statesman*’s big blog push came in September when it launched a public blog site on *Statesman.com*, with lofty ambitions of creating a new wave of “citizen journalists,” invoking images of *Statesman* bloggers fanning across Central Texas to report on terrorist movements and insider business dealings. “If we can get a fraction of our registered users (which number in the hundreds of thousands) to write about their expertise and/or passion, we’ll have better content, a bigger audience, and maybe make more money,” Assistant Managing Editor Tim Lott wrote in a recent posting.

Instead, after three months, the *Statesman*’s public blog site has the communal energy of the Yarbrough Branch library on free beer nuts night. Anyone willing to root around *Statesman.com* long enough to find the public blogs will discover only three or four new posts a day, mostly about UT football. According to the *Statesman*, of its “hundreds of thousands” of registered users, 396 have signed up for blogs. Of those, only about 20% have been active users in the last 30 days. As of mid-December, those frenzied citizen journalists had generated a total of 1,141 entries, an average of less than three a blog, which doesn’t quite suggest a bubbling cauldron of ideas and dialogue.

One of the more frequent posters goes by the handle of Netflibugaloos and writes about his latest Netflix selections. Retired and living in Miami, the author says he writes the blog on the

*Statesman* site because his son, who lives in Austin, was writing a Longhorn blog. “I think it’s great,” he wrote in an e-mail. “Here I live in Miami, four times the size of Austin and the *Miami Herald* has nothing to offer bloggers.”

As with many blog sites, amid the ruminations on MTV shows and lengthy dissertations on Vince Young, there are a few gems. A frequent contributor identified as Tater Tot is an articulate and funny voice, a father and husband who writes about the black community and offers cartoons with more insight and humor than any commentator in town. “I figured, I’m coming from Des Moines, Iowa where the black population is about 2 percent,” he wrote recently. “Surely, as they sang on *The Jeffersons*, I’d be ‘Movin’ on up ... to the east side.’ I’ve been to Austin’s east side. My move was lateral.”

But most of the blog entries so far have zero comments, the sad notation of a tree falling in the Internet with no one there to read it. And there is little to suggest the site will spawn an army of citizen journalists, unless Austinites crave more reporting on baking tips. Despite ads shouting, “You be the journalist!” the closest thing to a breaking news report on the site recently came from a guy who blogged updates from aboard a plane stuck on the tarmac at Austin-Bergstrom.

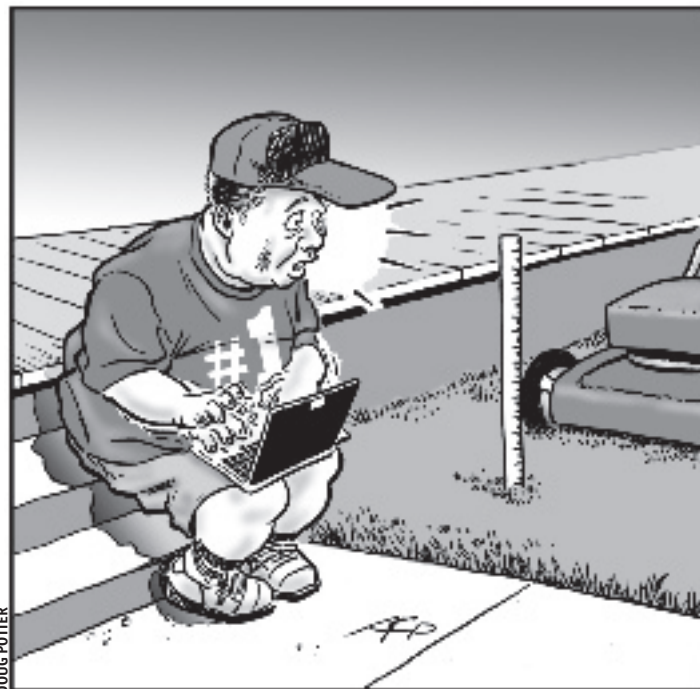
“The big hurdle for us is, how do we get people to put a blog to its highest and best use?” Zipp said.

Recruiting veteran bloggers to write might help, but the *Statesman*’s blog initiative was greeted with a collective yawn from Austin’s well-established blog community. (A good starting point for the Austin blog scene is *AustinBloggers.org*, a meta-blog site with regular updates from a wide variety of local writers.) Although it’s free and easy to use, the *Statesman* doesn’t offer bloggers the ability to promote their blogs and link to other sites, bloggers note. “It’s a real basic blog for someone starting out, but it doesn’t have the tools seasoned bloggers would want,” said Paul Walhus, a local Web designer and founder of *Spring.net*, a collective blog and podcast site. “I see them doing a highly constricted, highly limited version of a blog.” (Full disclosure: the *Chronicle* does not currently offer blogs on its Web site, although a handful of readers have turned the “Postmarks” online forum into a running town hall meeting on everything under the sun. – *Ed.*)

As is often the case when old media attempts to enter the new media realm, the *Statesman*’s blog site is chock-full of rules, disclaimers, and warnings sure to annoy anyone raised in the Internet era. Fans interested in responding to staff-written blogs are warned that their notes won’t be posted until “reviewed” by the staffer. In a medium that thrives on the lack of boundaries and hierarchy, the *Statesman* promises to feature blogs the editors deem worthy, but only those from “people who are keeping their language clean and civil.” (Zipp says only one public blog has been dropped from the site, for excessive use of the word “fuck.”)

Newspapers want to maintain a level of control in a format that thrives on a lack of controls, says Jon Lebkowsky, an active member of the local blog community. “The editor filter has value in the journalism context, but the lack of those filters is valuable for blogs,” Lebkowsky said. To attract dedicated bloggers, he says, newspapers would have to alter their fundamental mindset, “to change their sense of what journalism is.” If they can’t let go, “it’s not really blogging. It’s just a newspaper using a different content management tool.”

While the idea of “citizen journalism” is a quaint idea for college professors to bat around over lattes at Starbucks, the best bloggers – the ones drawing interest and audiences – tend to be, at the very least, semiprofessionals, laser-focused on a particular industry, company, or community, not soccer moms



with a zest for writing newsy diaries. Bloggers like DailyKos, Wonkette, Gawker, and even the slimy Matt Drudge provide a daily blizzard of insider information and tips, serving as repositories for gossip and buzz as much as hard news analysis.

## HAVE BLOG, WILL POD

On a fundamental level, newspapers are uncomfortable with this new ilk of quasi-journalists unwilling to clear the use of the term “rat bastard” with an editor before hitting “send.” But that basic idea – of a freewheeling public discourse with theories and ideas flying around without vetting by graduates of properly accredited journalism schools – flies in the face of all newspaper editors.

The best bloggers often make notoriously pompous newspapers look bad, exuding the type of life and energy missing from daily rags. In a day they can assemble a blizzard of links, sources, and data on a topic, exposing the shallowness of the daily paper’s beloved two-interview features and myopic localism. New queen blogger Arianna Huffington recently wrote, “The qualities I look for in a man are the qualities I look for in a blogger: passion, relentlessness, risk taking, and a light touch” – unmistakably, all qualities rarely found in a modern newspaper.

Blogging requires an intensity and persistence foreign to papers like the *Statesman*, as evidenced by Oppel and Zipp’s sputtering commitment to the form. *Statesman* TV critic Diane Holloway, one of the paper’s more frequent bloggers, took a month off at the end of November, which may be okeydokey in the bloodthirsty bullring that is the *Statesman*’s newsroom, but it’s a death notice in blog world.

The *Statesman* talks the cool talk about blogging and “citizen journalism,” but there is a noticeable lack of commitment to the entire concept. A redesign of the site launched in December makes it even more difficult to find the public blogs, which are now accessed through a drop-down menu under the news sections, except for “featured” blogs, which are highlighted on the home page.

Lott may have provided a clue when he explained why until recently newspapers “largely ignored” the blog phenomenon. “The newspaper business in general is slow to respond to quick changes on the Web,” Lott wrote. “Some think [blogging is] a fad. Others worry it might damage their credibility.”

Meanwhile, more nimble media companies are already starting to look for the next big thing. News Corp., Rupert Murdoch’s company, recently paid \$580 million for MySpace.com, hoping to gain a toehold in the fast-growing social networking arena. Other media organizations, like National Public Radio, are embracing podcasting, which allows for the insertion of commercials, promising a potential new revenue stream. In some media circles there remains a concern that blogging may be, like, so 2004. ■





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# the arts

34 BOOK REVIEWS  
35 AFTER A FASHION

## FIRST NIGHT AUSTIN: In the first person

When I opened the front door on the morning of Jan. 31 and saw that the bread fairies had visited during the night, I knew that my family had been given an opportunity to experience Austin's first First Night in a very special way: The bread on our porch was one of 2,006 freshly baked loaves delivered to Austinites that day as part of artist Jaclyn Pryor's contribution to the year-end cultural celebration. Recipients of the bread were invited to march together in the event's Grand Procession that evening and then to take part in a ritual of sharing – a literal breaking of bread – with their fellow citizens.

Approximately 10% of those who received bread that day showed up for the parade and made the march from Ninth and Congress down to Cesar Chavez Street and west to City Hall. Dressed in white (mostly) and holding aloft our loaves, we were hardly the most arresting sight in the procession – which included an "Antartica" attended by an army of human-sized ants, a giant puppet Stevie Ray Vaughan (among many other gargantuan papier-mâché figures), Mardi Gras Indians, a rolling pirate ship, a unicycle-riding ostrich, and more – but we were nevertheless cheered on by the crowds lining the streets.

And they were indeed crowds. Given that this was a new and untested cultural event, the public's interest was the great unknown, and there had been legitimate questions as to whether Austinites would



Austin Taiko at First Night

turn out in any numbers. I can testify that they did, lining both sides of the street the full 10 blocks that we walked, shoulder to shoulder, four, five, six, eight people deep, all along the route. Remarkable is putting it mildly.

That crush was evident on into the night. During the five hours we attended, my family took in 10 of the evening's 25 events,

and every one drew no less than a few dozen people and some drew into the hundreds. (Watching the five-deep crush of bodies pressed against the glass of the Frost Bank Tower lobby to see Sharir+Bustamante Danceworks perform José Luis Bustamante's 20-minute *Court Dance* inside, I was struck by the notion that more people were probably seeing the company at that moment than routinely see it perform one of its twice-yearly dance concerts.) And getting from one event to another always meant navigating a stream of pedestrians on the sidewalks. Police estimated total attendance at more than 100,000, and based on our experience, that doesn't seem far-fetched at all.

As encouraging as the turnout, however, was the quality of the art. While our sampling was admittedly limited, what we saw showed a consistent inventiveness in taking over downtown spaces: climbers rappelling down the side of a hotel on which Kong-sized images were projected, modern dancers gliding through a skyscraper lobby or weaving among pedestrians on a crowded sidewalk, a "dragon" consisting of illuminated tents floating on Town Lake, a soap-flake snow blizzard blowing beneath the live oaks on the First Street Bridge's north end. To see these familiar locales transformed by art was slightly disorienting – and so delightful. The First Night works offered sometimes lyrical, sometimes hypnotic images that are now fused in the memory with these community sites.

continued on p.32

## VICTORY ROSE: By any other name

As proof that UT National Championship fever has spread into every corner of Austin life, witness the *Victory Rose*, a new large-canvas painting by theatre artist/visual artist Melba Martinez. The piece is actually a natural outgrowth of artwork that the onetime head of the St. Edward's University Theatre Department has been doing for more than a year and a half. Following the unexpected death of her niece, Emma Martinez, at the age of 21, Martinez was inspired to paint close-up images of roses on canvases 6 feet by 7 feet to 6 feet by 9 feet and has completed more than 50 works to date. Since she's also been doing some teaching in the UT Department of Theatre & Dance of late, a work in honor of the school's Rose Bowl victory only made sense. Yes, Longhorns, the painting is for sale, as are giclee prints of the painting. For more information, call 294-5976. – R.F.



## AUSTIN THEATRE: NY (Hearts) U

As noted in last week's look at 2005 in review, Austin arts groups kept getting the attention of the national arts scene. Now, here we are just weeks into 2006, and the trend continues with three theatrical productions making a splash in New York.

- Rob Nash's *Holy Cross Sucks!*, which was well received in its off-Broadway debut last September, made the No. 10 spot in critic David Cote's list of the best shows of 2005 in the year-in-review issue of *Time Out New York*.
- Playwright Kirk Lynn had a chance to workshop his new play, *Major Bang, Or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Dirty Bomb (A Suspense Comedy With Magic)*, with New York's Foundry Theatre last fall, and this month the company is giving the two-hander about terrorism a full production at St. Ann's Warehouse, 38 Water St., in Brooklyn. Better yet, the prestigious Public Theater has included the show as one of 14 productions in its 2006 Under the Radar Festival, spotlighting contemporary theatre from around the world. To find out more, or just to get a load of the Foundry's way-cool Web site for the show – complete with online magic trick, interactive quiz, and video – visit [www.majorbangshow.com](http://www.majorbangshow.com).

- Salvage Vanguard Theater is gearing up to take its retro radio adventure serial *The Intergalactic Nemesis* on a national tour, and it's making a run to New York this month to present the show as a way of drumming up interest in the tour and a possible off-Broadway production. Lee Eddy, Jason Newman, Mike D'Alonzo, Shannon McCormick, and LB Deyo, plus Foley masters Etta Sanders and Buzz Moran, will take New York forward into the past on Saturday, Jan. 21, 2pm, at the Bowery Poetry Club, 308 Bowery. But before they blast off for parts East, the company will give Austin another taste of the fun. One night only: Wednesday, Jan. 18, 8pm, at the Hideout, 617 Congress. For more information, call 474-SVT-6 or visit [www.salvagevanguard.org](http://www.salvagevanguard.org) or [www.bowerypoetry.com](http://www.bowerypoetry.com). – R.F.



The Grand Procession



That's part of what First Night organizers were aiming for, and they're very pleased with the event's debut. First Night Austin Executive Director Ann S. Graham reports that it "really exceeded my own expectations – for audience attendance, but also artistic impact of the event and the overall sense of a community in celebration. Public response was wonderful, and everyone I speak with still talks about how friendly and good-spirited everyone was. The artists truly gave their all, both in the creative process and also in the presentation. And all seemed to draw from the energy of the audience. Sherry Gingras, artistic director of the Djembabes drumming group, said that her second Djembabes performance was the best the group had ever done ... because of the public response, enthusiasm, energy of the crowd."

Graham was out and about all through the 10-hour event, dealing with minor problems but no major ones. And in fact most of the issues she had to address resulted from the unexpectedly large turnout: They "ran out of programs, ran out of vendor food, ran out of TP at City Hall – those kind of things," she says. She was not so busy that she missed the art. "I saw every outdoor, site-specific work, along with my 'heart and soul' of the event, the Grand Procession," she says. "It was magical ... eclectic, creative, energetic. One sensory delight after the next. The cultural and artistic diversity was exceptional ... and yet I can only think ahead to year two and how we can build upon this success and make it even richer and denser."

– Robert Faires

Central Texas Mountaineer rappelling down the Radisson Hotel



PHOTOS BY JOHN LOCKE



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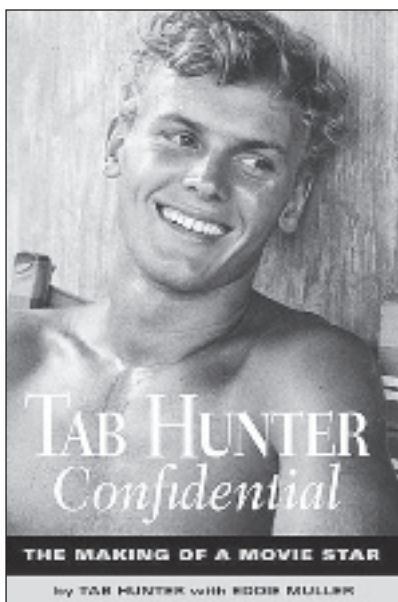
## TAB HUNTER CONFIDENTIAL: THE MAKING OF A MOVIE STAR

by Tab Hunter with Eddie Muller  
Algonquin, 378 pp., \$24.95

1943: As Hollywood sputtered its last wheeze of the studio system, desperately hacking up hunks of young actors to run through the movie-star mill, a strapping young Arthur Gelien was discovered at the tender age of 12, shoveling horse dung. The tousle-haired son of a Teutonic immigrant single mother had no idea where that shovelful of manure would take him — no idea that it would eventually spade him across the glossy covers of so many tattleale tabloids. Better known as Tab Hunter, Gelien, (also dubbed Fifties “Sigh Guy” and “Squeal Appeal Fella”) tells almost all in this autobiography co-authored by Eddie Muller, the “Czar of Noir” and “Adults-Only” film curator.

The “almost” is important to note, as Hunter relates life as a closeted Hollywood homo while delivering dish on colorful personalities like bitchy diva Tallulah Bankhead, flirtatious Lana Turner, and the real dirt on the Duke. He was an actor besieged by controversy: He survived a potentially career-killing outing (at a gay party raid) only to be devastated by a fabricated smear campaign (in which he allegedly beat his dog). Yet in this autobiography, he manages a gracious take on the glamorous life. He issues a dignified drubbing to the Hollywood that took him to the matinee mountaintop, then kicked him in the nuts.

Hunter reserves his most scathing rapier for those most deserving, like weasely manager Henry Willson,



whose eyes he describes as “a pair of piss holes in the snow.” His story is also tender, as he open-heartedly takes on the father he never knew, the stern but devoted mother who gave him “protection more than affection,” and his awkward struggles and close friendships with studio-imposed beards like teen idols Tuesday Weld, Natalie Wood, and Debbie Reynolds. He lets us see him “swimming in the Hollywood fishbowl” alongside lover Tony Perkins; a career resurrection thanks to John Waters’ *Polyester* and his favorite co-star, Divine; and his current life with producer “Baby Mogul” Allan Glaser.

Ultimately, *Tab Hunter Confidential* is itself a wink, a nod, and a middle-finger salute to the celebrity scandal rags of his heyday. Hunter reveals how Hollywood handles black sheep in a sooty stable. Tab’s true tale of celebrity survival self-references all in third person, acknowledging “Tab” as construct, while commenting on the preposterous path of pre-fab superstars. For a man whose public life was prescribed to him, and whose treasured private life was relentlessly exposed, Hunter gets the last word in releasing his memoirs: “Better to get it from the horse’s mouth, I decided, and not from some horse’s ass.”

— Kate X Messer

## EXCITABLE WOMEN, DAMAGED MEN

by Robert Boyers  
Turtle Point Press, 172 pp.,  
\$15.95 (paper)

The irresistible title of Robert Boyers’ new short-story collection likely finds expression in many a family dynamic, and anyone who can relate to it will especially appreciate the title story, about the impossible relationship between a loyal son and his aging, antagonistic mother. “I had no power to call her out of her misery,” writes Boyers from the son’s point of view, “but I exercised over her a sovereign power as the only person able to offer upon her existence some meaning, if only by virtue of my steady distaste for her and her principled unloveliness.” The complicated relationships among Boyers’ characters are highly constructed in stunning and often painfully familiar detail. But the characters themselves tend to be more opaque. Boyers reveals them through their actions, which often contradict their thoughts and surprise even the characters themselves. Sometimes we see this to the extreme, as in “A Perfect Stranger,” where a man finds himself stalking someone he doesn’t even know, and sometimes more subtly, as in “Tribunal,” where a handsome money manager can’t resist the woman he hates. In any case, it should be hard to relate to these people, but Boyers has a gift for re-creating the familiar ways in which we hide from ourselves, our behavior belying our beliefs. His prose is an exercise in skillfully unfolding a personality, and it’s a pleasure to be surprised anew every time he approaches this task, revealing common ground with the unlikeliest people.

— Nora Ankrum



# wonkette does austin



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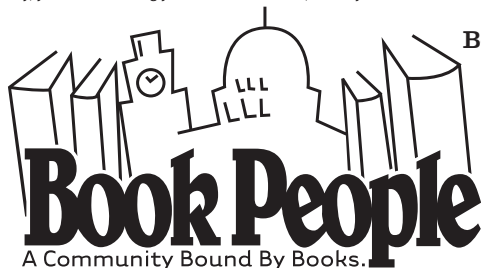
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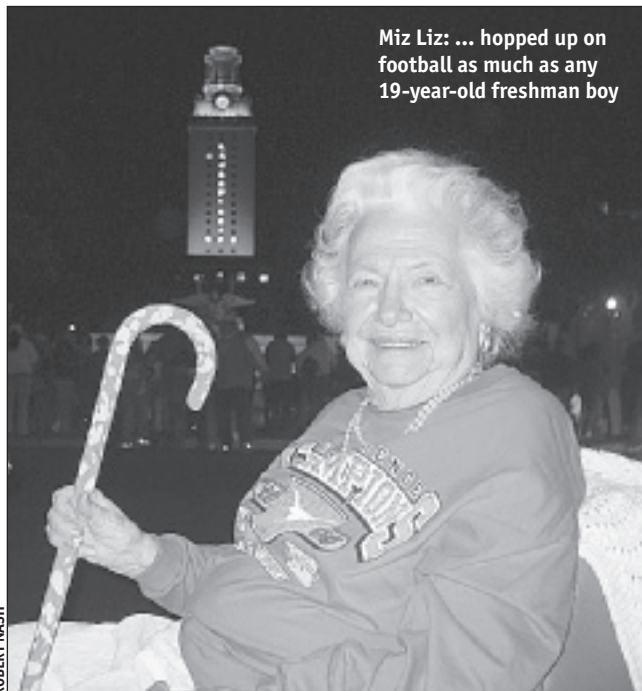
BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

**SPORTSFANS** I was up late working, this relatively balmy January night, and had all my doors open. It happened to be the night of the **Rose Bowl** (one of the very best times to grocery shop), and the cool breeze was punctuated by the muffled cheer of football parties all across the area. It had been surprisingly quiet, with a few bursts of excitement, but over a short period of time, it evolved into a full-blown frenzy, with screaming and cheering coming from every direction. Being as excited over football as I am over stain removal, I clucked to myself about rabid sports fans and went about my work. As the noise mounted and the walls shook, I knew **UT** must have been doing well. I became fascinated by the crowd's responses, as they echoed around my complex. Even I, in my own way, got caught up in the spirit of it. *Imagine.* When the game ended, the city erupted into one huge vocal orgasm that lasted for hours. It was well past 3am when the honking and screaming from **Sixth Street** died down. But even in my sports-challenged existence, I was proud. My publicist friend **Robert Nash** called me a couple of days later – he's hardly a football fan either, but he told me how he'd been glued to the game, mesmerized by the poetic beauty of **Vince Young's** plays. He told of hooting and hollering afterward over the phone with **Mme. Liz Carpenter**.

"She was as hopped up on football as much as any 19-year-old freshman boy," said Nash. "She watched the entire game." The next day Nash was dispatched to pick up a UT T-shirt for Liz and take her to pay homage at the orange tower blazing with the **"#1."** Surrounded by reporters, the grand old dame recalled the specifics of an incredibly exciting game she'd seen while attending UT back in 1941 when her friend **Jack Crain** ran 72 yards for a touchdown. "It was the most exciting game I'd ever seen," said Carpenter. "Until now."

**CAFE SOCIETY** It was the second time I'd been to **Taverna**. I brought **Mark Sullivan** and **Alfred Robinson** this time and loved it again – the food, the attentive but unobtrusive service, and the table-hopping. We ran into all sorts of people we know. **Cindy Morgan** dropped by for a martini; we chatted up **Jack** and **Carla McDonald**, as well as **Taylor Andrews** and **David Price**... I had a great dinner at **Suzi's** with the **Saxon Pub's David Cotton**, **Threadgill's Eddie Wilson** (who has spent months tirelessly working to feed **Katrina** victims in Louisiana), and **Rhino Records' Karen LeBlanc**, before retiring to the Saxon to see the wonderful **Carolyn Wonderland**... It wasn't until literally the last minute that I decided to go out at all for **New Year's Eve**; I had half a dozen very tempting invitations, but I declined them all and

dragged myself over to **Mark Ashby's** house and gossiped and giggled with the likes of **Joel Mozersky** and **Brian** and **Barbara Frisbie**, among a handful of close friends. I entertained by dispensing the **Stephen Moser Starter Kit** to my friends – a gift bag complete with sunglasses, folding fan, bottle of fragrance, and, of course, a signature brooch. **Sister Margaret** and I ran into Msr. Cotton and **KXAN's Jim Spencer** at **Maudie's** on South Lamar, before we headed up to the **Cotton Club**, I mean the Saxon Pub, to see the elegant **Arthur Brown** per-



Miz Liz: ... hopped up on football as much as any 19-year-old freshman boy

form. With my gigantic new Gucci sunglasses intact, David had to steer me through the crowd. It was glamorous, and I felt like a portly **Ava Gardner** being ushered to her ringside seat at the **Mocambo** in Hollywood.

**ATTENTION!** Get yourself to Houston tonight, Thursday, Jan. 12, for the glamorous **Carolyn Farb's** benefit for our next governor, **Kinky Friedman**. Mme. Farb opens her fabled River Oaks home to guests (tickets begin at \$500) for performances by **Jerry Jeff Walker**, **Billy Joe Shaver**, and others. More info can be found at [www.kinkyfriedman.com](http://www.kinkyfriedman.com)... We know you've been waiting, and it's time to start planning that sexy outfit you've been dying to wear in public. **ArtErotica 2006** is coming! This is the fourth annual **Octopus Club Erotic Art Auction & Dessert Party** (Saturday, Feb. 25, 9pm-12mid). All proceeds benefit the **Austin AIDS Emergency Fund**. The **Octopus Club** is looking for donations of erotic art for its silent auction. Have your secret passion displayed for all eyes to see and give to a very worthy charity at the same time. See [www.octopusclub.org](http://www.octopusclub.org) for further details.

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: [style@austinchronicle.com](mailto:style@austinchronicle.com) or PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).

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## Strong and Solid

Big Oak Bar-B-Que might be young, but it's quickly establishing its roots

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

The once-pastoral acres south of Austin are experiencing quite a boom, and, last spring, some construction workers building the housing developments and big-box stores took the time to e-mail me about one of their favorite lunch spots. They'd gotten hooked on the Central Texas version of a classic Philly cheesesteak sandwich served at Big Oak Bar-B-Que in downtown Buda. Come to find out, the e-mail arrived not long after Big Oak owners Stacie and Larry Ludemann completed the liquidation of Buda Hardware and made a commitment to concentrate solely on selling barbecue. "We'd been happy operating the hardware store we inherited from my folks for several years, even though we really had dreams of being in the food business. In August of 2004, we started selling some barbecue at the hardware store," Stacie Ludemann told me, describing the classic two-for-one small-town enterprise. "Then when Home Depot opened nearby last spring, we took that as a sign that our days in the hardware business were over, and it was time to focus on our own dream."

The Ludemann's dream realized sits at the corner of RR 2770 and Main Street in Buda, and it's still a work in progress. The interior decor is simple and spare: concrete flooring, four tops, and picnic tables covered with

checkered oilcloth, as well as a big-screen TV at one end. Orders are placed at the counter, and drinks (iced tea, coffee, water, and sodas; it's still BYOB right now) are self-serve. Outside, comfortable wrought-iron lawn furniture is arranged under the sheltering branches of a big, beautiful oak tree. While we already knew Big Oak was popular with the working man, it's obviously a family-friendly spot, as well. The food is fresh and affordable, and the space is kid-proof. Just the kind of place to drop in after softball or soccer with a carload of hungry kids. "We're still getting to know our clientele and trying to figure out what the community will respond to, Stacie explains, "like staying open late the night of the Rose Bowl game or offering a movie night for families or staying open later on weekend nights in the spring and summer."

The well-rounded Big Oak menu offers good barbecue for every taste, plus good side dishes and a couple of quirky house specialties. Meats are available by the sandwich (\$1.99-5.25), the plate (\$6.59-9.49), or the pound (\$5.69-9.99), and include lean, moist brisket and chopped beef, chicken, turkey, a peppery pulled pork and meaty pork spare ribs, and a tasty beef-pork blend link sausage from Johnny G's Butcher Block. Second-generation pit man Larry Ludemann grew up around the competition barbecue circuit and learned his craft

reports that the kitchen and some interior dining space are also finished, but they're still working on a 25,000-square-foot indoor space and many new decks, with hopes of a completion date sometime in March. He also disclosed that he has persuaded respected Houston chef **Tim Keating** to relocate here and become executive chef at the Oasis. "Tim will definitely upgrade the quality of our food while keeping it fun and casual," Theriot tells me. "He'll also oversee our vineyard and our new olive trees, and take charge of developing a line of Oasis-brand food products. We are very pleased he's coming on board"... If there's a Queen Mother of Austin comfort food, it would have to be **Dot Hewitt**, the indefatigable owner of **Dot's Place** (13805 Orchid Ln.), the beloved cafeteria-style eatery that burned to the ground in October of 2004. Though the restaurant was not insured, Hewitt bounced back quickly. She located kitchen space nearby and began serving a scaled-back version of her popular down-home menu from a mobile cart on the restaurant property. With the support of her



JOHN ANDERSON

### BIG OAK BAR-B-QUE

210 S. Main St. in Buda, 512/312-1947  
Monday-Friday, 10am-8pm; Saturday,  
10am-7pm; Sunday, 11am-3pm

from dad Leroy "the Bread Man" Ludemann, famous among competition cooks for baking sourdough bread on his custom rig. Larry learned his lessons well and turns out moist, flavorful meats, light on the smoke. A choice of savory beans; sweet, creamy cole slaw; or chunky red potato salad fill out the plates, along with pickles, onions, sliced bread, and a sweet/spicy sauce. They've recently added a homemade banana pudding and plan more desserts in the future.

The house specialty that generated the first e-mail is definitely worth a try. The Big Oak Philly (\$5.25) is a toasted white or wheat hoagie roll stuffed with your choice of lean brisket, turkey or chicken, grilled onions, green peppers, and jalapeño slices with melted jack cheese. No wonder the construction guys loved it: It's a very satisfying twist on the East Coast original. Frito pie aficionados will want to sample the BBQ Frito Pie (\$3.99), a bed

of Fritos topped with sauced chopped beef and tasty beans dressed with onions, jalapeños, grated cheese, and sour cream — another winning Big Oak version of a classic regional favorite. Following the dream of being in the food business appears to be just the right thing for the Ludemanns. Based on our recent visit to Big Oak Bar-B-Que, the expansion of Home Depot happened just in time to provide Central Texas barbecue lovers with another very reliable place to dine. ■

### CAFE MANGÙ

15200 FM 1825 in Pflugerville, 512/990-3121  
Tuesday-Sunday, 11am-10pm  
www.cafemangu.com

Owners Alex Fernandez and Rafael Montes de Oca are natives of the Dominican Republic. Each spent time in New York and Miami separately before meeting in Austin. They teamed up to open Cafe Mangù in a bright yellow frame house a few blocks north of the intersection of I-35 and FM 1825. The spot, pleasant and bright with light wood and tile, includes an inviting outdoor seating area.

continued on p.38

## FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

Looking back at many of the stories we covered in 2005, it seems that they came down to fire and water, one way or another. Three prominent local eateries were destroyed by fire during the year, and though neither Hurricane Katrina nor Rita did any actual damage in Austin, thousands of people arrived here as a result of their combined devastation. I've spent the last week or so touching base with the principal players in some 2005 stories to update us on their current situations. Just before Christmas, **Beau Theriot** celebrated the opening of the Top of the O, a new upstairs party facility at the **Oasis** (6550 Comanche Trail, 266-2441). Theriot and his staff have been working non-stop to restore the internationally known lake-side retreat since it was almost completely destroyed by fire back on June 1. Theriot

church and many loyal customers, she began raising funds to rebuild. For a time, it appeared that many of the contractors, carpenters, electricians, and plumbers who had frequented Dot's for so many years would pitch in and help with the rebuilding. City permits were secured, but local response to Katrina seems to have set back Hewitt's fund-raising efforts as well as depleted the available labor pool for the time being. She's still serving lunch weekdays from 11am to 2pm and looking for donations and/or investment backing... Not long after local restaurant mogul **Reed Clemons** made the difficult business decision to close his longtime Warehouse District mainstay **Mezzaluna** and make a huge investment in rechristening it **Capitol Brasserie** (310 Colorado, 472-6770), his reliable money-maker across the street went up in flames. The **Bitter End Bistro & B-Side Lounge** (311 Colorado) was a solid success, known for sophisticated, satisfying pub grub and well-crafted beers. The B-Side was undamaged by the October fire and remained open until the end of December.

Clemons was eager to rebuild on the site, but the landowners have other plans for the property. A source in the San Gabriel Restaurant Group office informed us that while Clemons would ultimately like to re-create the Bitter End in a new location, any plans to do so are on the back burner while he concentrates on building the success of the Brasserie... Unsinkable chef **Happy Abdelbaki** has surfaced again, this time in Osyka, Miss., about 90 miles north of New Orleans. He and his family have found refuge in a bed and breakfast lodge there, and he's serving lunch to a fast-growing clientele during the week. He's also found a food manufacturing plant in nearby Magnolia where he can resume production of his line of Chef Happy Foods. We'll keep you posted when they'll be available in the Austin market... As you can tell if you've read "Postmarks" recently, the smoke has cleared and a new generation of the **Vayas** family has plans for a diner in the old **GM Steakhouse** location on Lamar. **Chris Vayas** promises to keep us informed about his progress.



The menu incorporates elements of Dominican, Cuban, and Puerto Rican cuisines, with an abundance of authentic choices. We've sampled several of the appetizers offered, including Mariquitas (\$3.95; crispy, paper-thin plantain chips with lemon-garlic mojo dipping sauce); Yuca Frita (\$3.95, thick batons of cassava with a crispy outside and a creamy interior); and Pollo Chicharones (\$7.50, boneless marinated chicken chunks in a zesty breadding and a Creole sauce). All are excellent and perfect with drinks.

Mangù's version of the classic Cubano Sandwich (\$6.95) is exceptional: a large, thin baguette stuffed with lechón roast pork, ham, Swiss cheese, and pickle slices. The whole unit is grilled in a press and served with delicious thin-cut fries with a lightly battered exterior – a great sandwich and perfect fries (which so often are a throwaway item in restaurants). Our bowl of Sopa Pescado (\$4.50) was a meal in itself: a large bowl of pimento-scented tomato broth with potato, carrot, onion, garlic, and bell pepper with chunks of fresh fish. The Iberian connection comes through loud and clear.

As far as entrées go, you choose three from among a long list of offered sides. With our Lechón Asado (\$9.95, marinated and slow-roasted pork shoulder, topped with cider-wilted onion confit) we had the traditional white rice and black beans, and the vegetable of the day, a mélange of spuds and carrots. The Cuban pork roast is among the best and most tender we've tried, with a surprising depth of flavor.

Vaca Frita (\$10.95, flank that is braised, shredded, then sautéed with lots of garlic and onion, served with some of their first-rate garlicky mojo sauce) was accompanied with red beans, white beans, and tostones (flat-tened and fried plantain slices). All of the elements on that platter were delicious: the beans rich, with distinctly different flavor profiles; the tostones soft in the center, crunchy on the outside; the beef robustly seasoned and tender.



Camarones al Ajillo

JOHN ANDERSON

We took advantage of the "By the Pound" menu and left one visit with a pound of their Ropa Vieja (\$7.50 per pound). It's a name that translates as "old clothes"; a dish of finely shredded flank steak stewed with tomato, lots of garlic, red and green bell peppers, and onion. This is a fine version, and it didn't last long once it got home.

Friends with reliable palates have heartily recommended the Marinera Vinagreta (\$14.75, a huge salad of lobster, shrimp, and lump crab); the Bacalao Viscaína (\$9.95, salt cod in a savory tomato stew); the Paella Valenciana (\$39.95 for two, with clams, mussels, shrimp, lobster, pork, and chicken); and what they assert is the best Tres Leches cake in town (\$4.75). They are all on the short list for return visits, and it won't take long.

– Mick Vann

## COSMIC CAFE

1110 West Lynn, 482-0950

Monday-Thursday, 11am-10pm; Friday-Saturday, 11am-10:30pm; Sunday, noon-9:30pm

www.cosmiccafeatx.com

Surprise! Because the Cosmic Cafe is located in the old West Lynn Cafe's location, and because of the name, I was expecting (how can I put this diplomatically? I can't) completely uninspired "old hippie"-style vegetarian food. Instead, I found a wonderful restaurant. Perhaps the stark contrast between my expectations and my experience is causing me to rave a bit, but, among the ranks of purely vegetarian restaurants, Cosmic Cafe has set a new standard.

As all experienced vegetarians know, every cuisine on Earth has marvelous vegetarian dishes, and vegetarian cooking does not have to be bland or strange or dependent on brown rice and steamed vegetables cooked by college students. The key is the aforementioned global cuisines. Unfortunately, usually you have to go to a global restaurant of some kind (Thai, Vietnamese, Italian, etc.) and order a vegetarian item, and just hope your food does not become contaminated by too-close contact with the meat you know perfectly well is being cooked in the same kitchen.

That worry is blessedly absent here, yet the world cuisine know-how is present! Cosmic Cafe anchors its menu with Indian food, a particularly apt choice, since Indian food is fantastic (and trendy) and largely vegetarian to start with. What surprised me is that they got it right. It does not taste like imitation Indian food; it tastes like perfectly prepared Indian food, only perhaps just a little bit fresher and tastier. The Buddha's Delight (\$8.91) was superb in every detail; the samosa, a fried dumpling filled with a lightly curried potato and pea mixture, was crisp and perfectly seasoned, as was the tangy and sweet tamarind dipping sauce that accompanied it. The dahl, a de rigueur Indian lentil soup, was substantial and spicy while remaining delicious and light. The papadam tasted fresh (a first in my experience), the rice was fragrant and fluffy, the

nan bread hot and soft. (You can also get garlic nan, which is even better!) The "curried vegetables" turned out to be a classic Indian eggplant and potato curry, authentically seasoned.

Intrigued by the quality of the dahl, I ordered the other soup on the menu, a tomato soup with ginger, garlic, and basil. It was perfection: The flavors were in such perfect balance that none overpowered and all were enhanced.

In addition to the Indian theme, Mediterranean, Italian, and Mexican dishes round out the menu. The hummus (\$5.40), served with nan bread, is creamy, light, and fresh. Order extra nan, though, because the serving is substantial. The Mandala Pizza (\$7.56) is a nice, fresh, healthy pizza, perfect for a light lunch. The toppings (fresh tomatoes, onions, spinach, zucchini, mushrooms, bell peppers, and mozzarella), impressed me, in that they were firm, yet thoroughly cooked, rather like grilled vegetables. The Dharma Bell (\$9.45), a sautéed bell pepper stuffed with spiced potatoes and topped with melted cheese, was delicate in flavor and simultaneously filling, and served with a crisp vinaigrette-dressed salad for contrast. By the end of the meal, my companion and I were close to ecstatic.

For dessert, I sampled the Carrot Cake (\$4.23), which was moist and spicy, with plenty of raisins and a modest amount of sweet icing. Throughout the meal, I quaffed a bottomless cup of soy chai, which is also available plain (\$2.97). Iced raspberry tea, smoothies, shakes, and lassi are also offered. No alcohol is served, but you can bring your own, and many tables around us had.

On my second visit, I spotted a (nonvegetarian) local celebrity chef, who confesses to being addicted to the Buddha's delight. I remarked how unusual it was that nothing was even remotely disappointing, and he informed me that this is a second location, the first being in Dallas. The recipes were perfected there before they even opened the Austin location.

I only hope that after this review, I can still get in.

– Kate Thornberry

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**BURGER JOINT: GUS'S GRILL** In addition to great, cheap hamburger baskets, the sampler platter allows you to try almost everything on the menu. **3223 E. Seventh, 385-8898 \$\$\$**

**TEX-MEX: INOCENTE'S CAFE** A great place to sip an icy *agua de horchata*, enjoy good Tex-Mex cuisine, and soak up the flavor of the neighborhood. **2337 E. Cesar Chavez, 479-0218 \$\$**

**TEX-MEX: JUAN IN A MILLION** Find one of our favorite "heart attack" breakfasts: gorditas with chorizo and fried eggs slathered with chile con queso. Arteries may harden around the room, but no one seems to care. **2300 E. Cesar Chavez, 472-3872 \$\$\$**

**TEX-MEX: LA INDIA BONITA** Eccentric hours, cozy-looking interior, terrific mural out front. **1505 E. Seventh, 220-0819 \$\$\$**

**INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: LAS CAZUELAS** Look for a dozen egg dishes for early risers, as well as Machacado and Nopales, Enchiladas Potosinas, and plenty of other Tex-Mex standards. **1701 E. Cesar Chavez, 479-7911 \$**

**BARBECUE: LEWIS' BAR-B-Q** Step up to the window of this unassuming concrete shack for a juicy chopped-beef sandwich or a link of smoky sausage, then have a seat at the picnic tables. **1814 Harvey, 473-2225 \$**

**VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: MR. NATURAL** A juice bar, bakery, health food store, and vegetarian Mexican restaurant in one: your one-stop shop for soybean ceviche, pineapple empanadas, and queen bee royal jelly. **1901 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-5228 \$**

### LAKE

**FINE DINING: HUDSON'S ON THE BEND** A lakeside fine-dining fixture for two decades, specializing in game of all descriptions: rabbit to rattlesnake, pheasant to frogs' legs. The ambience is romantic, too. **3509 RR 620 N., 266-1369 \$\$\$**

**TEX-MEX: ROSIE'S TAMALE HOUSE** With a quarter-century in Austin dishing out tamales and fajitas, they also boast homemade pralines. **13436 Hwy. 71 W., 263-5245 \$**

**BARBECUE: SMOKY J'S BAR-B-Q** A definitive Texas barbecue joint with a smoking pit out back, window service, and picnic tables. Meat is available by the sandwich, the plate, or the pound, and it's still BYOB. **7008 RR 620 N., 331-4888 \$**

**SOUTHWESTERN: STARLIGHT TERRACE AT THE OASIS** Live music and great food continue on the Terrace as repairs are made to the rest of the "sunset capital of Texas." Still the perfect ending for a day on the lake. **6550 Comanche Trail, 266-2442 \$\$\$**

## recently reviewed

**FINE DINING: STARLITE** Devotees may miss the cozy blue house, but the charm is still there. Elegant and creative New American cuisine made with fresh, seasonal ingredients still complements affordable wine options. **407 Colorado, 374-9012 \$\$\$**

**ITALIAN: FINO RESTAURANT** From the owners of the popular Asti Trattoria in Hyde Park come influences from Nice to Morocco, Italy to Athens to Valencia, all ably executed by chef Tristan White and his team. **2905 San Gabriel #200, 474-2905 \$\$\$**

**AFRICAN: T'S CAFE** Go with a small army and safari your way through the menu of tasty and exotic stews, starches, and appetizers. **15608 Springhill #102, 251-4432, 913-1095 \$\$**

## NORTH

**ITALIAN: BUCA DI BEPPO** This national chain serves "immigrant Southern Italian" cuisine. Dishes are served family-style, or personalized for two with smaller portions. **3612 Tudor, 842-8482 \$\$\$**

**CHINESE: DIN HO CHINESE BBQ** A menu long on fresh seafood and meats, all authentically prepared, served, and priced. The best roast duck and *char siu* roast pork around. Get them to go or eat them there. **8557 Research #116, 832-8788 \$\$\$**

**CHAIN, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: EINSTEIN BROS. BAGELS** Eighteen flavors of steamed bagels; 11 varieties of shmears; a host of sandwiches served on bagels, challah, or sourdough baguettes; and salads, soups, and roll-ups. **4607 W. Braker #500, 338-6711 \$**

**INDIAN: MADRAS PAVILION** Spiced vegetable dishes served with white and tamarind rice for lunch, and for dinner a wide selection of reasonably priced appetizers, dosas, and *uthap-pam*. **9025 Research #100, 719-5575 \$\$\$**

**JAPANESE: MIDORI** Given its location, you'd expect lots of lunch traffic, especially considering the bargain lunch specials. A nice array of entrée choices is available for dinner and take-out. **13435 Hwy. 183 N., 257-1411 \$\$\$**

**CAFETERIA/BUFFET: MONGOLIAN BBQ** Have it your way, the Mongolian way. Choose your meat, choose your vegetables and sauce, and they'll fry it all up before your eyes. **9200 N. Lamar #100, 837-4898 \$**

**PIZZA: OASIS PIZZA** Start with crumbled feta, biting radish slices, and parsley garnishing a basket of hot flatbread. Kebob plates are another option, with tender meats and lightly charred vegetables. **14735 Bratton #105, 251-5777 \$**

**JAPANESE: ORIGAMI** Origami is considered one of the top five sushi bars in the area. It's known for its expansive selection of rolls, and the sashimi and sushi menus cover every conceivable want. **110 N. I-35 Ste. 200-B, 238-6522 \$\$\$**

**INDIAN: SHALIMAR** Pakistani food that's second to none and a *gosht karahi* that'll really get your goat. Try the buffet, but it's even better to take a chance on the menu items. **9310 N. Lamar, 719-3700 \$\$\$**

continued on p.42

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"Our entrees ... were winners all around. Each was paired with a well-conceived side-dish casserole, such as McGrath's Green Chile and Macaroni, as well as crisp seasonal vegetables. One standout is the divine Port Porterhouse ... and the Devil's Food Cake offered delightful contrasts of flavor, texture, and temperature. I'm obviously now an unabashed fan of the Roaring Fork." —Austin Chronicle

**Register online at [austinchronicle.com/contests](http://austinchronicle.com/contests) to win a dinner for two at Roaring Fork, located in the Stephen F. Austin Hotel Inter-Continental Corner of 7th & Congress, 583-0000, [www.roaringforkaustin.com](http://www.roaringforkaustin.com). Maximum value of \$50.**

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## food :: RESTAURANT ROULETTE :: FROM P.40

**TEX-MEX: TAQUERIA ARANDAS #4** Mexican breakfasts, sweet horchata, and the sunny red and white interior could whisk the fog out of anyone's morning brain. 834 Rundberg, 835-4369 \$

**BARBECUE: TEXAS RIB KINGS** If you are crazy enough not to eat the excellent beef or pork ribs, take a chance on the chicken, turkey, or ham. 9012 Research, 451-7427 \$

### NORTH CENTRAL

**FINE DINING, ITALIAN: ASTI TRATTORIA** For various Italian regional cuisines and an extensive wine list of mostly Italian and Cal-Ital selections, try this Hyde Park corner spot. 408-C E. 43rd, 451-1218 \$\$\$

**BURGER JOINT: DAN'S HAMBURGERS** One of several burger outlets operated by Austin's Hamburger King, Dan Junk, whose trademark has always been good, fresh food and friendly service. 5602 N. Lamar, 459-3239 \$

**BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: DOLCE VITA INTERNATIONAL BAR** Offers a delicious assortment of handmade Italian ice creams and fruit sorbets, along with a variety of coffee drinks, spirits, and cordials. 4222 Duval St., 323-2686 \$

**INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: EL CARIBE** A little-known jewel serving a mix of Interior Mexican and more-conventional Mexican fare. Tastes are authentic, the prices are very reasonable, and portions are huge. 5610 N. Lamar, 452-6207 \$\$

**DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: JASON'S DELI** The sandwich selection ranges from traditional deli to wraps and pita pockets, plus there are special menu sections dedicated to heart-healthy and kids choices. 1000 E. 41st, 453-8666 \$\$

**STEAKHOUSE: JC'S STEAKHOUSE** Superlative cheeseburgers and steaks that are above average, at slightly less than average prices. You definitely get your money's worth at J.C.'s, and you'll leave with a contented smile. 5804 N. I-35, 407-9393 \$\$

**JAPANESE, KOREAN: KIMCHI SUSHI** Simply decorated Lincoln Village sushi bar also features a menu of Korean favorites. 6406 N. I-35 #2343, 453-4111 \$\$

**SEAFOOD: QUALITY SEAFOOD** It's the place where all your favorite restaurants get their seafood, so you know it's the freshest. Great for lunch or an early dinner. 5621 Airport, 454-5827 \$

**SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: THREADGILL'S OLD NO. 1** Fried-catfish dinners at Threadgill's have been a popular menu item as long as the restaurants have been open in Austin. 6416 N. Lamar, 451-5440 \$\$

### SOUTH

**PUB GRUB: AUSSIE'S VOLLEYBAR & GRILL** In addition to great appetizers and pub fare, they offer big-screen TVs and beach volleyball courts out back. 306 Barton Springs Rd., 480-0952 \$

**BARBECUE: BERT'S BAR-B-Q** So small you might miss it, but this place has been around forever. Try the chicken. 1200 S. Hwy. 290 W., 288-7879 \$\$

**BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: BOULDIN CREEK COFFEEHOUSE & CAFE** Pick up a book, play Battleship, and enjoy all your favorite coffee drinks along with some killer honey lemonade. They also have a small, vegetarian menu. 1501 S. First, 416-1601 \$

**SEAFOOD: CATFISH PARLOUR** When the gang's hungry, take a crowd to eat in, or arrange to have them cater your next outdoor fish-fry. 4705 E. Ben White, 443-1698 \$\$

**CHINESE: HUNAN LION** Seek out the more unusual fare like Curried Singapore Noodles with shrimp and barbecued pork, the Hunan Soft-Shell Crab, Crispy Tea Smoked Duck, or the Firecracker Prawns. 4006 S. Lamar, 447-3388 \$\$\$

**INTERIOR MEXICAN: JANITZIO** Grab a couple of cacas en botellas from the icebox and choose from among the Michoacan-style steak dinners, seafood platters, sopas, gorditas, tacos, and tortas. 1422 Town Creek Dr., 442-6275 \$

**DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: JO'S HOT COFFEE** The best people-watching spot in the 78704 ZIP code. Find the usual coffees and lattes, as well as a selection of baked goods that make perfect midday nibbles. 1300 S. Congress, 444-3800 \$

**AMERICAN CAFE: KERBEY LANE CAFE** Famously fabulous breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and a favorite of the late-night set. 2700 S. Lamar, 445-4451 \$

**TEX-MEX: LA FERIA** This boisterous hotspot offers free tea with the lunch specials – we suggest the burritos. Live mariachi on Thursdays. 2010 S. Lamar, 326-8301 \$\$

**BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: LA MEXICANA BAKERY** Well-known for its wide selection of inexpensive pan dulces, empanadas, and galletas. If your sweet tooth needs a root canal, try something from the taqueria. 1924 S. First, 443-6369 \$

**TEX-MEX: LA REYNA RESTAURANT** Like a Tex-Mex diner, the atmosphere is casual and friendly, the food plentiful and filling. 1816 S. First, 447-1280 \$

**TAKEOUT, TEX-MEX: LA TAPATIA** Less Tex-Mex than Mex-Mex. Breakfast-taco fillings include the usual suspects – however, the meats definitely outshine all others. 1333 W. Ben White, 707-1585 \$\$

### UT

**TEX-MEX: CHANGOS** Serving tasty choices near the Drag, they offer great mahi fish tacos, al pastor, and homemade tortillas. From the folks that brought you Manuel's downtown. 3023 Guadalupe, 480-TACO \$\$

**PIZZA: CONAN'S PIZZA** Thick, cheesy Chicago deep-dish by the slice or pie. The lunch buffet will fill your stomach without emptying your wallet. 603 W. 29th, 478-5712 \$

**DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: DELIVERY: LONGHORN PO-BOYS & FALAFEL** It seems unlikely, but this tasty and unassuming sandwich shop makes some of the city's best and cheapest falafel. Famous for their stuffed grape leaves. 2901-B Medical Arts, 495-9228 \$

**AMERICAN CAFE: O'S CAMPUS CAFE** Serving healthy, unique, and delicious food at fair prices. They offer simple breakfasts of assorted tacos, French toast, and pastries, as well as a nice lunch selection. 24th & Speedway (A.C.E.S. Building on the UT campus), 232-9060 \$

**BURGER JOINT, DELIVERY: PLUCKERS WING FACTORY & GRILL** Who ya gonna call when you're craving good wings in the wee hours? These folks are frying and flying until 2am on weekdays and 3am on weekends. 2222 Rio Grande, 469-9464 \$

**DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: ROCK DOG** Chow down on the real deal in grilled dogs while staring at some truly inspired Austin music memorabilia. Great fries and desserts, too. 2801 Guadalupe, 481-8282 \$

**THAI: THAI KITCHEN** The Drag location of this respected local Thai restaurant chain is popular with student diners – the authentic food is fresh, spicy, and affordable. 3009 Guadalupe, 474-2575 \$\$

### WEST

**PUB GRUB: ALAMO DRAFHOUSE VILLAGE** Alamo Village shows new – and mainstream – movies with the same old – and delicious – menu as its Downtown progenitor. 2700 W. Anderson, 476-1320 \$\$

**DESSERTS, FINE DINING: CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO** Voluptuous, decadent brunch items are served with signature croissants and strawberry butter. Dinner options span a wide range, from pastas to chicken dishes to a variety of salads. 5406 Balcones, 454-2666 \$\$\$

**CHINESE: CHINATOWN** Chef's Specials shine – try the Crunchy Rabbit in Orange Sauce, Crispy Whole Fish in Red Chili Sauce, or the Peppercorn Chicken for proof. 3407 Greystone, 343-9307 \$

**BARBECUE: COUNTY LINE ON THE HILL** They will bring you a big platter of sweetly sauced beef ribs, tender brisket, and peppery sausage with all the trimmings until you tell them to please stop. 6500 Bee Caves Rd., 327-1742 \$\$

**BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, CAJUN/CREOLE: CRESCENT CITY BEIGNETS** Address that classic Big Easy culinary craving: chicory coffee and hot beignets. Muffuletta, red beans and rice, and étouffée fill the lunch and dinner menus, which vary daily. 1211 W. Sixth, 472-9622 \$

**FRENCH: LA MADELEINE** Diners slide their trays down the cafe-style line to order quiches, salads, soups, and sandwiches on dense homemade bread and croissants. 3418 N. Lamar, 302-1486 \$\$

**BARBECUE: THE PIT BARBECUE** Barbecue plates and sandwiches. Counter service and daily specials. 4707 Burnet Rd., 453-6464 \$

**FINE DINING, ITALIAN, SEAFOOD: ROCCO'S GRILL** Overlooking the hills of Lakeway, its pasta and seafood selections are the way to go. 900 RR 620 S., 263-8204 \$\$\$

**PIZZA: ROUNDERS PIZZERIA** Their pies are hand-tossed into a thin crust and baked until crispy. Fresh salads, made-to-order calzones, and an abundance of available ingredients are sure to please. 1203 W. Sixth, 477-0404 \$

**STEAKHOUSE: SALTGRASS STEAK HOUSE** The casual, noisy atmosphere makes this an appropriate family steak house. The Denny's-esque menu also offers foods other than steaks, most of which have been heavily breaded, fried, and smothered in cheese. 10614 Research, 340-0040 \$\$

**INDIAN: SAROVAR INDIAN CUISINE** This North Austin restaurant offers the most extensive Indian menu in the city, with pages of North and South Indian specialties. 8440 Burnet Rd. #100, 454-8636 \$\$

**TAKEOUT: SASHA'S RUSSIAN MARKET** This grocery and deli offers a selection of blintzes, fresh-smoked and marinated fish, caviar, top-quality meats, and Russian breads. The daily lunch specials ensure a surprise treat for every visit. 5523 Balcones, 459-1449 \$



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## 'WORLD' CINEMA

### THREE-MONTH SERIES AFS@DOBIE LAUNCHES WITH LATEST JIA ZHANGKE FILM

Twenty years ago, when filmmakers Richard Linklater and Lee Daniel put their disheveled heads together and formed the Austin Film Society, they decided to host their inaugural screening at the Dobie Theatre, the perfect gathering place, they felt, for an eccentric new film collective. Starting this Friday, the society is once again at the Dobie with the appropriately titled AFS@Dobie, a three-month series that will feature a new independent film every week, showing twice nightly for seven nights in one of the Dobie's curiously decorated, geometrically suspect theatres.

"The goal of the series," says guest curator Alison Macor, "is to bring more new films to Austin. More independent films, more foreign films, more documentaries." Macor, who for years was a movie critic at the *Chronicle* and across the pond at the *Statesman*, and who is currently putting the finishing touches on her book about the history of the Austin film scene, believes that despite its reputation as a cineaste-filled city, Austin is too often passed over by independent movie distributors looking to sell smaller, artier, more foreign fare.

"For years, I would go to festivals or hear about films that I wanted to see in Austin and that wouldn't make it here. It was frustrating," she says. "So now, hopefully with the AFS@Dobie series, films that maybe normally wouldn't come to Austin will get here."

Hoping the same is the director of programming for the Austin Film Society and one of the original minds behind AFS@Dobie, Chale Nafus, who has been around the Austin film community for more than 25 years. He's the man responsible for many of the film series screening throughout the year at the various Alamo Drafthouse theatres, including the Essential Cinema Series and the Texas Documentary Tour. Many of these Alamo series require that the movies involved adhere to a particular theme: Political Thrillers in Cinema, say, or Recent Korean Cinema. That isn't the case, though, with AFS@Dobie, a situation Nafus finds liberating. "With this AFS@Dobie series, I can bring a single movie in on its own, without worrying about whether it fits a theme," he says. To screen as part of AFS@Dobie, he



says, movies need only be independent, well-made, and have little chance of showing in Austin otherwise.

Starting off this three-month experiment (which could go longer if demand is high enough) is *The World*, Chinese filmmaker Jia Zhangke's new film about the workers and performers at Beijing's enormous, surreal World Park. Zhangke's first "overground film," *The World* is the only one of the director's movies not to be banned by the Chinese government. This film is followed hard upon by a new movie every week, each one starting on Friday, each one showing twice a night, and each one quite different from the one before it. *Darwin's Nightmare*, Herbert Sauper's sobering documentary about the Nile perch fishing industry and the effect it has on a small village on Lake Victoria, starts Jan. 20; and academy award-winning director Steven Soderbergh's *Bubble*, a low-budget love-triangle drama set in a doll factory and starring nonprofessional actors, begins its run a week later.

— Josh Rosenblatt

For more information, see [www.austinfilm.org](http://www.austinfilm.org).



## TEXAS DOCUMENTARY TOUR: 'TOUCH THE SOUND'

Imagine a deaf person whose life is all about music. German filmmaker Thomas Riedelsheimer, whose last doc, *Rivers and Tides*, explored the work of Scottish sculptor Andy Goldsworthy, has turned his lens on another Scottish artist, Evelyn Glennie, widely acknowledged to be the world's foremost solo percussionist, with a huge following and 17 solo albums to her name. Glennie went inexplicably deaf when she was only 12 years old, but resolved to remain a musician despite her deafness and, as she says, develop the ability to hear sound through her entire body, by using herself as a kind of resonating chamber, this being something she can't quite explain. Charismatic and bursting with energy, Glennie, whose first Grammy was for a recording of

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Bartók's *Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion*, has also collaborated with Björk. Today, her musical zest is focused on improvising, something she does with exuberance, often in bare feet and designer clothes.

Reidelsheimer's approach in *Touch the Sound: A Sound Journey With Evelyn Glennie* is to follow her for a year as she improvises alone and with others in unconventional settings – from soloing in Grand Central Station in New York to jamming with fellow Scot Fred Frith in an abandoned sugar factory in Cologne to playing with Japanese drummers in Kyoto – drawing upon the familiar but random sounds that most of us would consider to be mere noise. From time to time, the film becomes just a medley of amped-up everyday sounds, the point being to connect us to the ambient materials from which Glennie derives her music. — Anne S. Lewis

## FILM NEWS

BY JOE O'CONNELL

### TAKE ME TO THE PILOT

**Peter Berg's** TV pilot *Friday Night Lights* is set to shoot in Austin in February, according to casting lists. The show is based on Berg's film of the same name, which is based on **H.G. Bissinger's** book of the same name about Odessa Permian gridiron stars. Meanwhile, an untitled CBS drama pilot set in Austin also seems promising. From gritty writer **Jorge Zamacona** (*Oz*, *Homicide: Life on the Street*, and *Third Watch*) the story is said to follow a Latina lawyer and her ex-football-star/bubba husband-turned-investigator.

### TURK'S PRIZE FILM

*Nobility*, a documentary from Austin's own **Turk Pipkin**, has been picked up for distribution by **Craig Baumgarten's** FFM Media for a limited theatrical release centered around

Earth Day weekend, April 22-23. Pipkin hopes to have 1,000 screenings that weekend in conjunction with nonprofit groups including Amnesty International and the Unitarian Church. A DVD release is set after that through Monterey Media. The film is made up of interviews with Nobel Prize winners, including Bishop **Desmond Tutu** and nuclear disarmament activist **Joseph Rotblat** about finding solutions to global problems including poverty and threats to the environment. "The purpose of the movie is to get a lot of people from across the political spectrums to talk about these things without their political agendas getting in the way," Pipkin says. "I want a lot of people to see this. Certainly we can't trust business and government to solve our problems. There's never been a time when individuals had the opportunity to make such a difference."

### POD PEOPLE

Time to finally upgrade to a video iPod. The *Student Filmmakers' Showcase*, aka SFS TV, has its first official vodcast on Jan. 30. For

more, see "TV Eye," p.49. Meanwhile, shorts by four students from **Steve Mims'** Austin Film Works classes are available for download to your desktop or iPod at [www.austinfilmworks.com](http://www.austinfilmworks.com). They include the cockroach comedy "Le Cafard" from **Melissa Salpietra**, hobo doc "Waiting for Spiderman" from **Sarah Ware**, Austin High senior **Elizabeth Mims'** look at aging in "Weathered," and the self-explanatory "Weird Beard" from **Michelle Pineau**.

### AND THE REST

A sad farewell to one of the coolest DVD rental spots in town, **Pedazo Chunk**, which closed its doors this past weekend after a great four-year run. It will be missed. If you find yourself on South First, you might want to stop by and see what you can find amid its clearance sale... **Harry Knowles** reports *2gether 4ever*, the horror film he is producing along with **Clive Barker**, will likely shoot in late March or early April in either Austin or Shreveport... Probably making a filming stop in Austin is road movie *Chasing 3000*, starring **Ray Liotta**. It follows two brothers in

1972 as they travel cross-country to see Roberto Clemente get hit number 3,000 for the Pittsburgh Pirates... DVDs of **Kat Candler's** *cicadas* are available for \$25 at [www.storieproductions.com](http://www.storieproductions.com), with proceeds going to finish *jumping off bridges* in time for its SXSW premiere. Congrats, Kat!... **John Bryant's** dark comedy "Oh My God" is entered in the Web's only film festival as sponsored by Moviefone. Check it out at [www.moviefone.com/shorts](http://www.moviefone.com/shorts)... He used to wait tables at Hickory Street; now, former Austinite **Alex Pesquera** has a Style Network reality show, *Try My Life*, that, à la *Freaky Friday*, has parents and their teens stepping into each other's shoes. Check it out Wednesdays at 9pm... Volunteers are needed for SXSW Film 06, which, as mentioned last week, opens with the North American premiere of **Robert Altman's** *Prairie Home Companion* on March 10 and runs through March 18. Also on the slate are Texas-shot *The King* and the world premiere of **Ron Mann's** *Tales of the Rat Fink*. To join in the SXSW fun, fill out an application at [www.sxsw.com/volunteer](http://www.sxsw.com/volunteer).

Send tips to [filmnews@austinchronicle.com](mailto:filmnews@austinchronicle.com).



# From Austin to Neptune

Creator Rob Thomas on the rise of his career-making cult favorite, 'Veronica Mars'

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

After a visit to writer/producer Rob Thomas' Web site, SlaveRats.com, there are several possible conclusions one might draw. The bitter will quickly decide that Rob Thomas has had it too damn easy. The ambitious will search for parallels to their own lives, anything to hang their hopes on. For the rest, particularly a reporter who writes about television and recently had the opportunity to interview the former Austinite by phone from his home in Los Angeles, the big question is this: Can it be true that Rob Thomas is such a nice guy? If so, how does he do it while working in Hollywood, a place not exactly known for its warmth and sensitivity?

Try as one might, it's difficult to find anyone able or willing to talk smack about Thomas — unless you include Thomas himself. His Web site is an unabashed autobiography this side of confessional (baby pictures are included) outlining what might be called his quirky path to becoming the creator of one of television's hottest cult dramas, *Veronica Mars* (UPN). But no matter how circuitous a path might be, it inevitably leads back home. For Thomas, that means Austin, where he'll be Jan. 14 and 15, joined by *Veronica Mars* cast members Kristen Bell (Veronica Mars), Jason Dohring (Logan Echolls), and Enrico Colantoni (Keith Mars) for a *Veronica Mars*athon at the Alamo Draffthouse Downtown.

**His father a vice-principal at Westlake and himself a teacher at Reagan, Thomas "combined the world of both high schools" in creating the fictional Neptune High. And Austin is reflected on *Veronica Mars* in other ways, namely bands and bars.**

The event features a "best of" clips show, a panel discussion, and performances from the Fire Marshals of Bethlehem and the Daylight Titans — two of the Austin bands that have been heard on the series. However, the highlight of the event is a sneak peek of the newest episode, "Donut Run," with Lucy Lawless guest starring as an FBI agent who comes to the series' fictional Neptune, Calif., to investigate a kidnapping that will inevitably affect the Mars family, according to several online sources. "Donut Run" is the first *Veronica Mars* episode written and directed by Thomas.

The *Veronica Mars*athon brings with it good news and bad. The bad news is that the \$30

tickets sold out in seven minutes. The good news is that proceeds from the event go to a good cause, Austin Voices for Education and Youth ([www.austinvoices.org](http://www.austinvoices.org)). Its mission includes creating forums for high school students and their communities to discuss issues that affect young people, with education being a priority. The *Mars*athon is another in a string of events the Alamo has done with Austin Voices, which works heavily with Garza High, an alternative Austin high school.

Ah, high school. That hormone-charged landscape best known for bad skin, big dreams, tender egos, hyper-self-consciousness, dressing to impress your friends and bewilder your parents, and, above all, the most rigid caste system known to the Western world.

By his own admission, Thomas "is one of those infuriating people who enjoyed high school." A 1983 graduate of San Marcos High, he was a proud (but apparently likable) high school jock.

He later attends TCU, transferring to UT and graduating with a bachelor's degree in history in 1987. He begins teaching high school in 1988, first in San Marcos, and then at Reagan High School by day, playing with rock band Hey Zeus (an Austin favorite for nine years) by night. He makes a big career move in 1994 when he quits teaching, quits Hey Zeus, and moves to L.A. to work for Channel 1, a teen-focused news program. When it becomes clear to him that making coffee is his most valued skill at Channel 1, he begins to write his first young-adult novel, *Rats Saw God* (1996). When Simon & Schuster picks up this and his second book, *Slave Day* (1997), he quits Channel 1 and returns to Austin as an author (three more titles follow).

But the move is short-lived when he's asked to be a staff writer for *Dawson's Creek* in 1998. That job doesn't last long. While demonstrating his flair for the laser-sharp quip, Thomas' comment about *Dawson's Creek* show-runner Kevin Williamson "reaching into his bag of trick" (yes, singular) when rewriting earns him a pink slip. (A show-runner oversees a series; typically the creator or one who has a direct line to the creator, it's the person you don't want to piss off, particularly if they can't take a joke that cuts close to the bone.)

By 1999, Thomas strikes a four-year development deal with 20th Century Fox "for more money than I ever dreamed of." He chalks up more writing credits on his résumé, including a couple of small films, but scoring the big "hit" eludes him. *Cupid*, the 1998 pilot starring Jeremy Piven, is his first ordered to series. It's canceled after 15 episodes. But things look bright when TV mogul David E. Kelley hires Thomas as show-runner for his series *Snoops*. However, "creative differences" force Thomas to leave the show, which is (thankfully) scrapped shortly after it launches. Thomas joins and leaves the writing staff of the critically acclaimed *Playmakers* (ESPN) after one



Rob Thomas, the nicest guy in Hollywood, on the set

month. It's just as well. The show is canceled after its first season.

For four years, Thomas continues to produce work, make bank, and throw fabulous Halloween parties. He gets pilot orders, but those aren't panning out into the coveted series order. After a while, even the pilot orders are not coming in. Finally, in August 2003, Thomas "has one of those bullshit meet-and-greet meetings at UPN" during which he mentions "an old teen noir" that he has laying in a drawer — an idea left over from his young-adult novel-writing days. And as has become a familiar trope in the TV pitching narrative, this is the idea the UPN execs like. They ask to see the script, and, three days later, the script is sold. In January of 2004, *Veronica Mars* is ordered into production, and the rest is, as they say, cult TV history.

All right. So, if you listen for the gaps in the otherwise cheery delivery of his "how I made it" story, it's clear that Thomas' rise to TV success wasn't without adversity. Still, there's something amazing about someone being knocked around and coming up happy. Or maybe, just maybe, he really is that nice of a guy.

"If I were talking about Rob with Rob in the room, I would probably tell you he was a horrible teacher: He would take our lunch money and hit on the high school chicks," says Viet Nguyen, a former Reagan High School student who Thomas taught in 1993. "But, honestly, he was just as cool of a high school teacher as you would think. He understood us; he didn't talk down to us; he really respected us. I'd be very surprised to hear any of Rob's former students say he didn't impact their lives somehow."

For Nguyen, the impact was particularly direct. After graduating from UT's film program in 2001, he worked on and off for Thomas on various projects and is now an assistant editor on *Veronica Mars*.

"Rob is one of the most generous people out there. He really looks out for me — professionally and personally," Nguyen says. "Not only is Rob talented, he's got a work ethic like no other. When we saw him [at Reagan] working as hard as he did — late nights in the journalism room and playing gigs with his band — there's no way he wouldn't get somewhere."



□

"This is my school. If you go here, your parents are millionaires or your parents work for millionaires. Neptune, California, a town without a middle class." — Veronica Mars, pilot episode

"Thomas once again displays his pitch-perfect ear for the music of teen language, culture, and sensibilities," a critic wrote of Thomas' third young-adult novel, *Doing Time*, and the same could be said of *Veronica Mars*. A bright wit and knack for turning the sharp, smart-ass phrase snags viewers, but it's the intricate storylines — part detective story and part teen soap, delivered in a serialized format — that keeps them hooked. Indeed, not only does the series capture teen culture, but it reaches relentlessly to a darker, foundational truth of the high school experience: cliques and castes.

"I think these things run in cycles," says Thomas when asked about the fearless approach to inflammatory issues in *Veronica Mars*. "You have films [later a series] like *Clueless* that was oblivious to race and class, with this happily-ever-after blending together of kids from different backgrounds. But, before that, there were books like *The Outsiders*, where the class divide was hard and real. I wanted to really look at that world of the haves and have-nots, and really pointed to it in the pilot with Veronica's voiceover."

Some local viewers have insisted that Neptune and Neptune High are a fictionalized version of Austin and Westlake High, where Thomas' father was a vice-principal until the early 1990s. (His parents, both educators, left Texas 16 years ago, returning to Washington state, where Thomas was born.)

"Well, the original incarnation as a book was to be set in a thinly disguised version of Westlake High," Thomas admits. But after teaching at Reagan High, which is well over 50% black, and having to recast the original idea into a series, Thomas thought, "What if I combined the world of both high schools?"

Austin is reflected on *Veronica Mars* in other ways. After playing with Hey Zeus, Thomas came to know the city's clubs and musicians, many of which are paid tribute to in the series. Sheriff Don Lamb (Michael Muhney) is named for an Austin guitarist and manager of Waterloo Records. Austin musicians Kevin Kearney, Jennings Crawford, Hunter Darby, and others have had incidental characters named for them. Like many teen-centered dramas, music plays a large role in the series. Austin bands Cotton Mather, Right Flyers, the Wannabes, and more have had their tunes showcased in various episodes.

"I named a bar 'DeVille' [for Austin's Club de Ville] in one episode," Thomas says. "There are five writers on this show. They are always bringing in names of their friends or bands and other hometown touches into their scripts, too."

Still, how does a 41-year-old man, whose high school years are two decades behind him (and, by comparison to the world of Neptune High, downright idyllic), write a character as compelling and damaged (though not destroyed) as Veronica Mars?

continued on p.48



## 'Veronica Mars' 101

*"Tragedy blows through your life like a tornado, uprooting everything. Creating chaos. You wait for the dust to settle and then you choose. You can live in the wreckage and pretend it's still the mansion you remember. Or you can crawl from the rubble and slowly rebuild."*

— Veronica Mars, pilot episode

"Veronica Mars was supposed to be a boy," Thomas says of his TV series. Keith Mars, Veronica's father in the TV series, was the original protagonist of a series of teen noir detective novels Thomas had in the works when his TV writing career took off.

Many media critics contend that *Veronica Mars* debuted just in time to fill the void left by *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, the other teen drama featuring a pretty, blonde teenage heroine. However, that's where the similarities dramatically cease. Although *Buffy* was brilliant in cleaving the depths of the high school experience through the horror genre, *Veronica Mars* is, in some ways, much more horrifying in that it's placed in the here and now, with real, flesh-and-blood characters surviving the high school caste system.

At the center of *Veronica Mars* is Veronica herself, a girl who has done the impossible: She has fallen from the top of her high school's caste system and landed somewhere near the bottom — and survived.

At the series' outset, Veronica is a social outcast. Her alcoholic mother ditched Veronica and her father, Keith, the former town sheriff, now working as a private eye, after he suggested that one of Neptune's elite might be responsible for his own daughter's murder. But it wasn't just any murder. The victim was Veronica's best friend, Lilly Kane. Keith Mars was ousted in a recall election and declared a pariah.

Veronica stands by her father, but not without cost. After attending a class party to show she doesn't care about the whispers about her or her father, she awakes the next morning realizing that she has been slipped a roofie and raped. To make matters worse, the new law enforcement that took charge once her father was ousted are of no help. And this is where the pulse of the series lies: in Veronica Mars' ability — actually, her willfulness — to stay in this milieu while she gets to the bottom of the mystery of who killed her best friend and who raped her. Are the two events somehow related? Along the way, other mysteries surface: Is Keith Mars really her father? Is her onetime boyfriend Duncan Kane really her brother?

There are several online sources to read episode recaps of the first and current season, including [www.upn.com/shows/veronica\\_mars](http://www.upn.com/shows/veronica_mars) and [www.televisionwithoutpity.com](http://www.televisionwithoutpity.com). Also, season one is now out on DVD ... check it out for yourself. — B.A.



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“You’re in no better position to hear teen girls talk without a filter than in working with them after school on a yearbook,” says Thomas of his years teaching journalism at Reagan High. “Yearbook staffs are dominated by girls, and the most self-conscious people on the planet are high school girls. As far as the series, I thought it would be so much more interesting to see a high school girl who doesn’t care what this world makes of her. She’s not afraid to go against the crowd.

That point is made clear in an early scene in the series pilot when Veronica Mars, alone, steps up to cut down Wallace (Percy Daggs III), who – after crossing the local motorcycle gang – finds himself naked and duct-taped to the school’s flag pole.

“That,” Thomas says, “was the first image that came to me.”

In the world of Neptune High, Veronica stepping forward to rescue an outcast while everyone else looks on is an enormously brave thing to do, on or off screen. (In fact, one student onlooker asks why no one is cutting Wallace down, while she herself does nothing.) But Veronica is not without her vulnerabilities.

“I didn’t want to create a series about a girl being fearless, but about one who has nothing left to lose,” Thomas says.

Former Austinite and UT graduate Sharon Ross, now an assistant professor in the Television Department at Columbia College in Chicago, posits that this notion, along with the series’ teen-noirish mood, is the secret to its success.

**“I thought it would be so much more interesting to see a high school girl who doesn’t care what this world makes of her. I didn’t want to create a series about a girl being fearless, but about one who has nothing left to lose.”**

**– Rob Thomas**

“I’ve heard the ‘noir’ angle bandied about in regards to the show, which [I believe] is a worthy *Buffy* replacement,” says Ross, whose work on cult TV – specifically *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Xena: Warrior Princess*, and other female-driven series – was the subject of her 2002 dissertation and the subject of a book in progress. “I find it an interesting label also. The only other series I’ve heard this applied to within easy memory is *Twin Peaks*, intriguing since it featured teens while not being a teen show. The private eye angle definitely nudges [*Veronica Mars*] towards noir, and the idea of the somewhat socially isolated hero – although that has shifted this season – with questionable connections and sources. But so much seems not noir: the female hero, little in the way of femme fatales, lighting [being] standard melodrama most of the time, the father-daughter bond [between Veronica and Keith]. If it’s noir, it’s a major reworking. The key noir element would have to be the social isolation of Veronica in the larger scheme of things and the thematic of questioning the status quo of romance and sex. Perhaps all that separates noir from horror is the monster?”

Perhaps. But perhaps the “monster,” like Sartre’s existential examination of hell, is other people. And



Star and show-runner celebrate after shooting the pilot episode.

what worse hell could there be but high school? At least in Thomas’ Neptune High, the weight of that hell is alleviated by a clever bon mot, a well-timed retort, appropriate retributions, and, what the heck, some real heart. Another touchstone of the series is the poignant but not overwrought relationship between Veronica and her father, Keith.

“[Keith] knows [Veronica] has seen and heard and known too much at a young age,” Thomas says. “The toughest job to keep in mind is, how much can Keith Mars know? He can’t know too much, or else he would have taken Veronica out of that town long ago.” Fortunately, he has two excellent actors to help keep that balance fresh and realistic.

“I got so much praise for the [first] season finale,” says Thomas of the moving scene in which the audience learns whether Keith is Veronica’s real father. “It was those two [Bell and Colantonio] that made that scene so much better than what it was on paper. It’s a real testament to their talent, not mine.”

A touching father-daughter moment in a “noir” drama? Is Thomas turning noir on its ear or improving the form? From all indications, *Veronica Mars* fans couldn’t care less either way. They just want the stories to continue. The drama has earned a faithful fan base ready to strike should rumors prove true that UPN is undecided on whether to renew the series for a third season. Kristen Veitch of E! Online’s “Watch With Kristin” has placed the series on her endangered series list, though even she says including it is debatable. “There are no signs UPN is considering canceling *Veronica Mars*, but given the lower-than-deserved ratings, it still needs support”.

While viewer numbers are low by major network standards, the series (along with *Everybody Hates Chris*) has certainly brought a higher profile to the netlet.

“Our numbers are better than last year, and are really good when *Lost* airs a repeat,” Thomas says of the Wednesday-night ABC juggernaut that *Veronica Mars* competes with in the same time slot. “I spent thousands of dollars to put a shower in my office. I’m betting on success.” ■

*The Veronica Marsathon sold out seven minutes after it was announced online. Die-hards can take their chances, hoping for no-shows, but like gym class and blind dates, you’re on your own. For more information, see [www.originalalamo.com](http://www.originalalamo.com).*

## Clips From ‘Mars’

Since you likely won’t gain admission to the Alamo Drafthouse’s *Veronica Mars*athon, for which Thomas personally compiled a clip show, I decided to do one myself. What follows is a totally subjective “best of” list of *Mars*-isms and scenes from the series’ first campaign. And, yes, I did get *Veronica Mars: Season One* on DVD for Christmas. – B.A.

**WARNING: SPOILERS AHEAD**

### PILOT

Veronica Mars, teen sleuth, on a stakeout hoping to catch an adulterer ...

Veronica (voiceover): “Do us a favor if it’s you in there. Dispense with the cuddling. This hotel tryst is what it is. Make it quick. The person sitting in the car across the street might have a calculus exam in five – make it four – hours and she can’t leave till she gets the money shot.”

Burning image: Wallace Fennel (Percy Daggs III) taped naked to the Neptune High flagpole. As everyone looks on, only Veronica Mars steps forward to help.

### CREDIT WHERE CREDIT’S DUE AKA THE PARIS HILTON EPISODE

We meet sly public defender Cliff McCormick. Weevil Navarro’s (Francis Capra) grandmother is charged with credit card fraud ...

“I sincerely doubt ... Mrs. Navarro suddenly decides to steal from the Echolls after 10 years of loyal service just so she can get a new piercing from Puddy Tats.”

Burning image: Paris Hilton, head to toe in Pepto Bismol pink, riding a matching scooter

### MEET JOHN SMITH

More great father-daughter banter between Veronica and her dad, Keith ... Keith: How was your date?

Veronica: Oh, you know. Lousy conversation, but the sex was fantastic. Keith: That’s not funny.

Veronica: I don’t know. I’m pretty sure it was.

### THE GIRL NEXT DOOR

Eli “Weevil” Navarro and Logan Echolls find themselves doing detention together. They hate each other, but in such an entertaining way ...

Logan: If I donate to the United Latino Pain in the Ass Fund, will you shut the hell up?

Burning image: Logan finding the name of his murdered girlfriend, Lilly, on Weevil’s arm

### LIKE A VIRGIN

A season one gem. When good-girl Meg finds her results of a “Purity Test” broadcast online, she seeks Veronica’s aid to clear her name ...

Veronica: Meg, you’re the last good person at this school. I believe cartoon birds braided your hair this morning.

Lots of new and important characters and information are introduced in this episode – Wallace’s mom (and

future love interest for Keith); Dick Casablancas, whose smoking-hot stepmom (Charisma Carpenter) plays well with boys in season two; the introduction of creepy Abel Koontz, who confessed to Lilly Kane’s murder, even though the evidence doesn’t add up. And, most importantly, we meet Mac the girl geek.

Burning image: Mac driving off campus in her apple green VW Bug after the Purity Test case is cracked. Veronica ruefully realizes it was Mac who set up the whole scam.

Veronica: How can I resent someone who took sex-crazed O9ers for their allowance money?

### DRINKING THE KOOL-AID

Veronica milks a cow, wearing an unfortunate, fake-fur collared down vest, checking out a possible cult. In the meantime, Dad Keith is jumping out of his skin, thrilled at a surprise he has for his daughter ...

Veronica: What’s your deal? You’re jacked up like some hillbilly kid who just stumbled into daddy’s meth lab.

Later, Veronica has trouble drawing blood for a health class project (really, for a paternity test) ...

Keith Mars: This is so endearing. My bad-ass, action-figure daughter is afraid to draw a teensy little drop of blood.

Burning image: Veronica shreds the results of the paternity test, sight unseen.

### ECHOLLS FAMILY CHRISTMAS

Nothing says Happy Holidays like a stabbing at a posh Christmas party. The victim is Aaron Echolls (Harry Hamlin), Logan’s psycho movie-star dad.

Burning image: Aaron Echolls bleeding while guests watch fake snow fall on Victorian-costumed Christmas carolers out by the pool.

**Fast Forward:** Veronica’s mom returns; Duncan disappears (found by Keith Mars), afraid he might have killed Lilly and freaked out that he and Veronica might be brother and sister; Veronica and Wallace confront the possibility of being siblings; Trina, Logan’s spoiled and overbearing sister, returns home under false pretenses. But the kicker of the season comes in the last two episodes, “A Trip to the Dentist” and “Leave It to Beaver,” when Veronica finally discovers how she lost her virginity, and, in a scene that will make viewers gasp, we find out who killed Lilly Kane.



## TV EYE

# Sending Out an 'SFS'

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

AMN SFS is dead. Long live SFS TV. When the Austin Music Network signed off in September of 2005, part of the collateral damage was the *Student Filmmakers Showcase* show. But that death was short-lived, according to filmmaker and SFS Executive Producer **Juan Garcia**. Later this month, AMN SFS will be reincarnated as SFS TV. But don't look for the return on your TV set. Look to the small, small screen. When SFS TV launches Jan. 30, it will be the "first vodcast from Austin," according to Garcia.

"[SFS TV] sticks to the same idea of letting the students be the creatives and help produce the show, as well as showcasing shorts (of course)," Garcia writes in an e-mail. It "will be the first program to air on a weekly basis, available at a set time. We're treating SFS TV like what it is, a hybrid between television and a small format vodcast."

The new SFS TV has been in the works for the last four months and will be available exclusively on iTunes and video iPods, because, as Garcia says in SFS TV press materials, "Apple has reinvented television. They created the product and now it is up to producers to create the content." Whether there is an endorsement deal between Apple and SFS TV is unknown at press time.

"We want SFS TV to be the first vodcast that acts like the world's first universal television program and ignores broadcast boundaries, thereby playing to the largest audience possible," Garcia continues. "As you wrote in [TV Eye, Nov. 18, 2005, [austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-11-18/screens\\_tveye.html](http://austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2005-11-18/screens_tveye.html)] video on demand is increasing and portable shows like SFS TV may be the wave of the future. Although I agree with you that watching full-length TV shows on the small screen isn't that pleasant, it [works] for short forms of entertainment, like student films. I think this could be a great way to draw attention to these young up-and-comers."

As a tribute to the past, Garcia launched an AMN SFS Web site on Jan. 1 ([www.amnsfs.com](http://www.amnsfs.com)). Episodes, extras, news clips, and other items from the show's last two seasons will be uploaded by the end of the month and archived in perpetuity as a way to say "thanks for the support."

Student filmmakers who would like their work considered for SFS TV should check out [www.whatisthesfs.com](http://www.whatisthesfs.com). Specific questions can also be sent to [info@sfstvod.com](mailto:info@sfstvod.com). To view the current SFS TV pilot, go to [www.sfstvod.com](http://www.sfstvod.com).

For those of us wringing the last drop of life out of soon-to-be-outdated operating systems, be aware that in order to download SFS TV and the necessary iTunes program, OS X or higher is necessary.



## Midseason Malaise

If asked which of the midseason premieres looked promising, I'd be hard-pressed to come up with a response. Everything I've seen has astounded with its mediocrity. A few examples:

*InJustice* (ABC): The premise sounded good: The wrongfully convicted are exonerated. But *InJustice* is no different from any other procedural drama already out there (*Law & Order*, *CSI*, *Cold Case*, *Criminal Minds*), it just works in reverse – the "criminal" is proved innocent and set free. **Kyle MacLachlan** stars.

*The Book of Daniel* (NBC): This series features **Aidan Quinn** as the Rev. Daniel Webster (refer to high school English 101 to find out why this name is symbolic) and his daily trials as a religious leader, father, and husband. If this sounds suspiciously like *7th Heaven* (WB), rest assured that this is where the similarity ends. If *7th Heaven* was relentlessly goody-goody, *The Book of Daniel* tries so hard to be edgy it's laughable. The adults are recreational drunks (and incredibly uptight, considering the gallons of booze they throw back). The priest across town has underworld connections. The reverend's children are gay, sexually promiscuous, or selling pot. Two church elders are having an affair with one another. The Rev. Webster's sister-in-law is in love with another woman, and the reverend is hooked on painkillers and talks to Jesus. Even the kindly black maid (!) smokes pot, which might be the best way to watch this series. There is already a movement underfoot to boycott this series for being "anti-Christian," for reasons you can probably surmise. However, the real offense is its lack of cleverness.

*Four Kings* (NBC): The very likable **Seth Green** stars as the Carrie Bradshaw in this conventional sitcom about four lifelong friends who go through their young-man adventures in the big city. Not bad, not good. Just out there.

Launched but not seen: *South Beach* (UPN); *Dallas Swat* (A&E).

Returns: *Wildfire* (ABC Family); *The L Word* (Showtime); *The Shield* (FX); and *Miami Ink* (TLC). A special two-hour season premiere of 24 airs Sunday, Jan. 15, 7pm, on Fox.

Austin-based reality series *Rollergirls* premiered Jan. 2. Read my review next week.

As always, stay tuned.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at [tveye@austinchronicle.com](mailto:tveye@austinchronicle.com)

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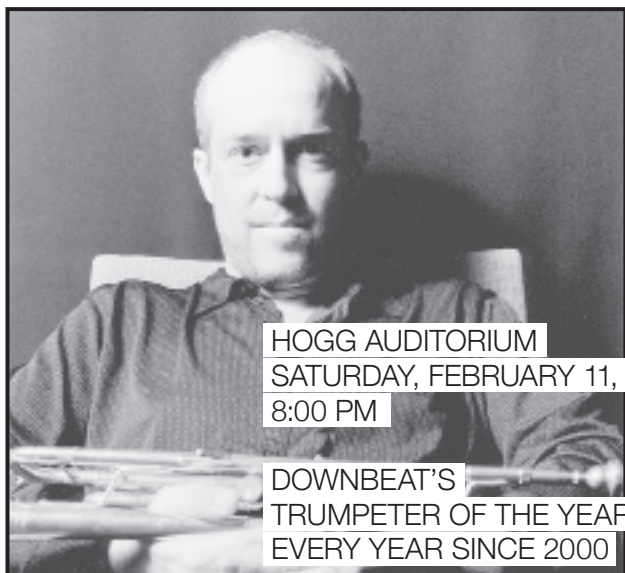
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# music

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54 PHASES & STAGES

## TCB music news BY CHRISTOPHER GRAY

### FREE FOR ALL

**Emo's** string of free shows every January, ballooning to nine days in 2006, is many things: the new year's musical starting line, Austinites' not-so-dry run on SXSW, and the evolutionary local cycle in action. Consider that **Rubberhed**, **Ignorance Park**, **This Microwave World**, and **Young Heart Attack** were all top draws at **Free Week** 2005, but long gone by last week. It might remind those of a certain age of the days when Emo's was always free, but local music was also a much less valued commodity. (Saturday night, the club reached capacity, inside and out, by 10:30pm.) Free Week is the scene in miniature, with a few important exceptions. Most importantly, by its nature, it exposes audiences to bands they might never pay

cover to see: For every convert the **Glass Family** made Saturday night, someone else swore **Zykos** would never invade their eardrums again. Which prompts a question seldom asked in Austin's myopic music scene. Yes, we have a lot of bands here, but how many are actually any good? Of the whopping 48 bands taking the stage during Free Week, simple math dictates that they can't all be **What Made Milwaukee Famous**. Or **Gorch Fock**. Or **America Is Waiting**. Or can they? (Two TCB favorites: **'Til We're Blue** or **Destroy**'s bizarre roots-rock/power-pop double-tracking; the **Lemurs**' hypnotic post-punk sleight of hand.) Perhaps the real genius of Free Week, in a scene as crowded as ours, isn't hippping the uninitiated to acts they like. It's allowing them to discover which ones they don't.



MARY SLEDD



MARY SLEDD

### TWENTY TO LIFE

Now in its 20th year, **SXSW** is again poised to set record numbers of artists both invited and accepted. So, naturally, they're going to need more volunteers than ever. First call is 2:30pm Sunday, Jan. 22, at the **Hilton** downtown. These are some of the locals that made the SXSW 06 cut so far. See the hundreds and hundreds of others who did as well at [www.sxsw.com](http://www.sxsw.com).

**At All Cost, Barfield, Shane Bartell, Belaire, Bexar Bexar, Black Angels, Cat Scientist, Charanga Cakewalk, Eau Claire, Devil Bat, Daniel Francis Doyle, Ana Egge, Fires Were Shot, Ghandia, Glass Eye, Jana Hunter, Hurts to Purr, Jade Day, Knife in the Water, Midori Umi, Moonlight Towers, My Education, One Umbrella, Palm School Choir, Quien es BOOM!, San Saba County, Emily Sparks, Standing Waves, Dao Strom, Abi Tapia, the Story Of, Toof, Ume, Weird Weeds, What Made Milwaukee Famous.**



### MR. KITE'S CORNER

**Stop the Truck** and **Mau Mau Chaplains** guitarist **Steve Carter**, a longtime Austinite who served with the **Lotions** and **Pressure**, recently needed surgery for a detached retina, so his friends are throwing him a benefit Sunday at the **Flamingo Cantina**. The **Ceasar Bros. Funkbox**, with special guest **Cyril Neville**, tops the bill, with **Sonny Throckmorton**, **Freddy Powers**, **Jon Emery**, **Floyd Domino**, **Albert & Gage**, **Sara Hickman**, and more joining in. Doors at 5:30pm, with a silent auction.

### SWEATBOX SWEATS ONE OUT

"**Sweatbox** is burning," announced **Attack in(Formation)**'s **Ben Webster** from the make-shift stage last Thursday, interrupting Free Week with the worst possible news. Those assembled on Emo's patio could already smell the tell-tale aroma, and several ran immediately to the nearby building at 304 E. Fifth to see for themselves. It was indeed burning, badly, but no one knew where: besides the 12-year-old Sweatbox, the building houses art and dance studios, music rehearsal spaces, and **KOOP** radio's studio and offices. The **Austin Fire Department** said Friday the fire was started by "improperly discarded smoking materials" and was largely contained to the second floor, away from both **KOOP** and Sweatbox. Both businesses sustained peripheral smoke damage, however, and may be forced to move anyway because the damage may put the building out of commission permanently. The electrical system was ruined, and Sweatbox engineer **Bryan Nelson** said Tuesday he didn't know whether the owners would put in a new one. (TCB was unable to contact owners the **San Jacinto**



JOHN ANDERSON

**Group**.) **KOOP** expected to be back on the air Wednesday, possibly through an arrangement with **KVRX**, and on Monday was waiting to see how much of their music library was salvageable. "We do have one of those rare, sick music collections," said the station's **Rebecca Gutierrez**. Sweatbox owner **Mike Vasquez** has transferred operations to the **Nevele Eleven** Studios down South (site of the original **Bubble**, off Slaughter Lane), but Nelson isn't quite ready to write the original location off yet. "If it's a matter of cost to restore the building, we have tons of free manpower, and we know everybody," he says.

## NATURAL SELECTION

It's time to vote in the 2005-06 **Austin Music Poll**, on p.57 of this issue and at [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com), and as always TCB has a few kindly suggestions. Just remember, vote too enthusiastically and your favorite band may get disqualified. "Stuffing is really obvious, and computer ballots have made it even easier to track," says the redoubtable **Poll Answer Lady**. "Really easy." Voting continues through Jan. 26.

AUSTIN BAND OF THE YEAR: **Spoon**  
AUSTIN MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR: **Jon Dee Graham**  
ALBUM OF THE YEAR: **Spoon, Gimme Fiction** (Merge)  
AUSTIN SONG OF THE YEAR: "Sister Jack," Spoon  
BEST NEW AUSTIN BAND: **Clap! Clap!**  
ROCK: **... And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead**  
PUNK: **Manikin**  
METAL: **the Sword**  
INDUSTRIAL/GOTH: **Pail**  
DJ: **Rapid Ric**  
POP: **Glass Family**  
JAZZ: **Blaze**  
BLUES: **Black Joe Lewis**  
HIP-HOP: **Tee Double**  
EXPERIMENTAL: **Invincible Czars**  
INSTRUMENTAL: **Octopus Project**  
COUNTRY: **Texas Sapphires**  
BLUEGRASS: **Weary Boys**  
ROOTS-ROCK: **Milton Mapes**  
FOLK: **James McMurtry**  
LATIN TRADITIONAL: **the Brew**  
LATIN CONTEMPORARY: **Maneja Beto**  
WORLD MUSIC: **Mau Mau Chaplains**  
COVER BAND: **Drifter** (Iron Maiden)  
KID BAND (majority members under 18): **Loose Cannons**  
NOVELTY BAND: **TunaHelpers**  
NONE OF THE ABOVE: **White Ghost Shivers**  
FEMALE VOCALS: **Sarah Sharp/Patricia Vonne** (tie)  
MALE VOCALS: **Sean O'Neal, the Arm**  
ELECTRIC GUITAR: **Kevin Allen**, ... Trail of Dead  
ACOUSTIC GUITAR: **Scott H. Biram**  
BASS: **Andrew DuPlantis, Tia Carrera**  
DRUMS: **Jim Eno**, Spoon  
KEYBOARDS: **Drew Patrizi**,  
**What Made Milwaukee Famous**  
HORNS: **Grupo Fantasma**  
STRINGS: **Max Johnston, the Gourds**  
MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUMENT: **Ray Pride, Crack Pipes** (harmonica)  
SONGWRITER: **Will Sheff, Okkervil River**  
RECORD PRODUCER: **Mike McCarthy**, *Worlds Apart* (...Trail of Dead)  
NEW CLUB: **Club One 15**  
LIVE MUSIC VENUE: **The Parish**  
ACOUSTIC VENUE: **Cactus Cafe**  
ALL AGES VENUE: **Emo's**  
RECORD STORE: **End of an Ear**  
INSTRUMENT/EQUIPMENT STORE: **Rock & Roll Rentals**  
RADIO STATION: **KVRX-FM**  
RADIO PROGRAM: *Next Big Thing*, **Andy Langer**, **101X**  
RADIO MUSIC PROGRAM: *Before the Break*, **Laurie Gallardo**, **KUT-FM**  
RADIO PERSONALITY: **Paul Ray**, **KUT-FM**  
BAND WEB SITE: **MySpace.com**  
LOCAL MUSIC TV SERIES: *Local Live*, **KVR-TV**  
MUSIC VIDEO/DVD: *Songs for Tsunami Relief: Austin to South Asia* (Lost Highway)  
CONCERT POSTER: **Bill Jeffery**, **Attic Ted**, Club de Ville, Oct. 31  
JOURNALIST/CRITIC/WRITER: **Staff**, *Misprint*  
COVER ART: **Conrad Keely**, *Worlds Apart*  
CONCERT BY A TOURING BAND: **Duran Duran**, **Bass Concert Hall**





# Ain't Nobody Real but Me

Chamillionaire wrestles the beast **BY ROBERT GABRIEL**

Houston rap celebrated a breakout year in 2005 as syrup-laden spoonfuls of Mike Jones, Slim Thug, Paul Wall, and Bun B slid down the mainstream gullet and drew attention to the late DJ Screw and what had formerly been a fringe movement. Capping this unprecedented, citywide success in November, Chamillionaire put a new kink in a scene that's become all too formulaic with stereotypes. Paul Wall's rhyming partner on 2002 underground smash *Get Ya Mind Correct* (Swishahouse), Cham now sails his powerhouse Universal Records solo debut *The Sound of Revenge* out of the uncharted waters of his own individuality.

**Austin Chronicle:** *Your album seems to be its own brand of Houston rap.*

**Chamillionaire:** So far, fans have known me for raw underground music. I tried to make an album the streets could feel and that could be commercially successful at the same time, something women would like without relying on that typical, club-oriented bounce. People expected me to rap about candy paint, rims, and diamonds on every song.

**AC:** *Has the Houston sound overexaggerated itself by this point?*

**C:** It's kind of exaggerated, but so far every step it's taken has gone in a positive direction. At one point a few years ago, all there seemed to be coming out of Houston was Destiny's Child, Lil' Flip, and Scarface. Eventually trends die out. The way I see it, substance lasts a long time, and that's the kind of artist I hope to grow into. I mean, when something like Katrina happens, you have people who don't really care about rims when their house is gone. In a way,

**"That people are drawn to these regional scenes is a natural thing. People are just curious like that. They jumped all over New Orleans and Cash Money and then St. Louis by way of Nelly and Chingy. Then they heard people in Atlanta talking about traps and people in Houston talking about syrup. ... It's like sex, you always want something new rather than just the same old thing."**

I'm trying to detach myself from being identified as strictly a Houston rapper. When I think of Eminem, I don't only think of Detroit. I think of his creativity and concepts. When I think of Kanye West, I'm not only thinking of Chicago. That's what I'm working toward, to not only be seen as a trend.

**AC:** *Which artists have influenced your sound the most?*

**C:** I don't really listen to stuff for influence. I don't even listen to my own stuff. What I've always looked at for inspiration are people behind the scenes who are making big moves in the music business, people like Jay-Z, Prince, and Russell Simmons, who each took rap and used it as a stepping stone onto bigger things.

I'm looking way past this rap stuff. Even successful rappers can only expect five to 10 years of jumping around onstage being a star. I want to create a brand like 50 Cent where I can back movies and consumer products. That's a process that only begins with a record.

**AC:** *Image is central to rap. How do you think you fit in as a public figure?*

**C:** My claim to fame has been on the mix tape circuit, which is why I'm known as the "Mixtape Messiah." I just went on a major promo tour through California, and it was great to meet so many fans who feel like they actually know me on a personal basis, having heard me rap along the way as I've had my problems with Paul and problems with labels. They want to know all about that background information, because it puts them more in tune with who I really am.

**AC:** *While you were in California did you get a feel for the hyphy sound that's been bubbling out of the Bay area?*

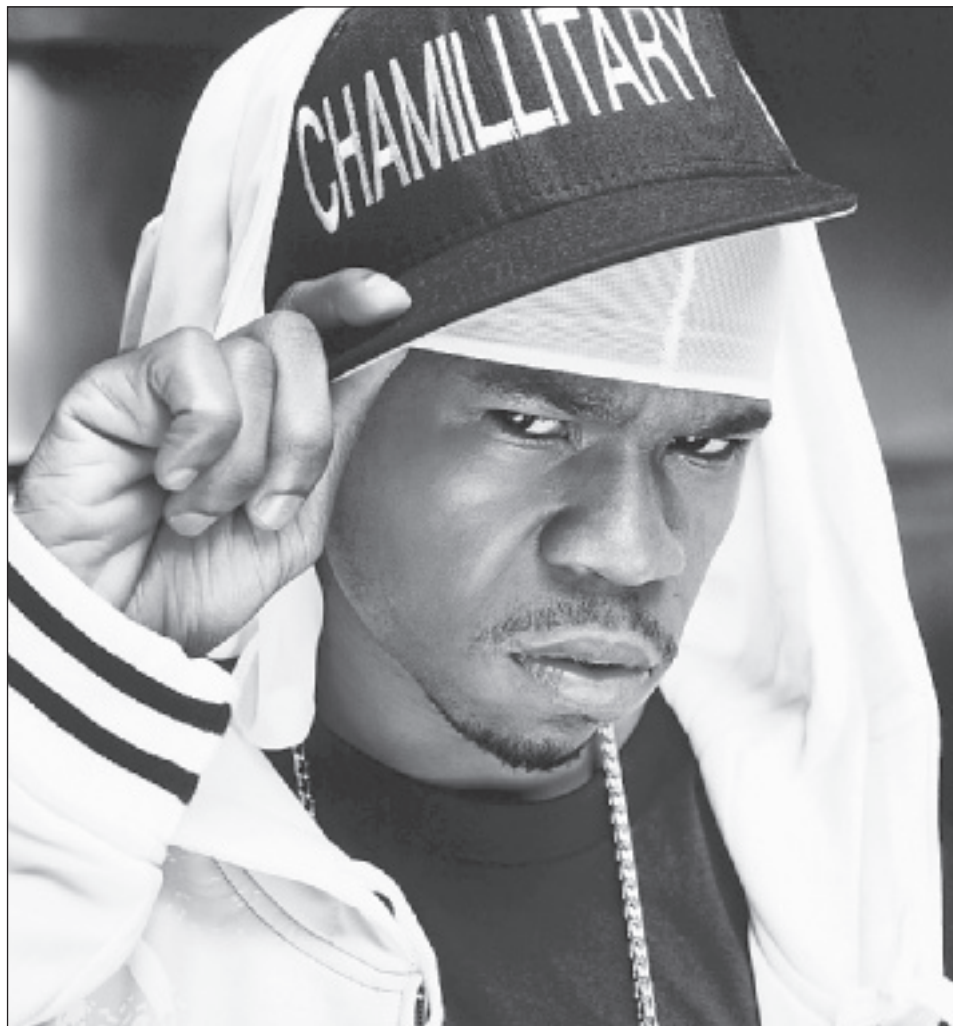
**C:** I'm thinking that Oakland might be the next place to blow. I've just recently been put up on the late Mac Dre, and I'm impressed with that independent grind that he had going. It basically becomes a follow-the-leader sort of thing. Who would have thought a few years back that the South would have such a run? Actually, the way that people are drawn to these regional scenes is a natural thing. People are just curious like that. They jumped all over New Orleans and Cash Money and then St. Louis by way of Nelly and Chingy. Then they heard people out in Atlanta talking about traps and people in Houston talking about syrup, so of course they had to go and figure out what

those things were all about. It's like sex, you always want something new rather than just the same old thing.

**AC:** *And now there are a lot of deserving musicians who are finally getting the chance to cash in.*

**C:** Everything happens for a reason. Some of the hottest records might not calculate into sales because nowadays it's all about the business over the music. The game has changed with everybody playing their cards really carefully right now. I'll always be content as long as my finances are right. I can sell gold and still make more money than an artist that goes platinum because of the deal that I signed with Universal.

**AC:** *If you're at the peak of your career right now, who is it that you're exacting revenge upon?*



**C:** There's a lot of haters out there. For anyone following my story, the main idea is that I'm looking adversity in the face and showing that I am beating it. Hopefully I've become a role model for that sort of thing. I've never had an easy lane to walk in. So I'm making my own lane. There were far too many people who told me that I would fall off after I left Swishahouse. Success is the best revenge to have. I just hope that I'm making music that matches the hype.

**AC:** *Did you always aspire to be a rapper?*

**C:** When I was young, going to the NBA was all I was about. Where I lived in Houston, I would have gone to Eisenhower High, which wasn't much of a basketball school, so my people made it possible for me to attend Jersey Village instead. It was a calculated chess move, all for the advancement of my basketball dreams

**AC:** *What about your singing?*

**C:** I have no background in singing at all. The way I got started was that my DJ, Ron C, was doing a mix tape called *Parking Lot Pimping* and the idea occurred to me to add a singing hook to a particular track. I'm open-minded like that, so we did it, and then people were looking at me like I was crazy since I had no training whatsoever. But it worked, so I continued on and taught myself all about melody. The next thing you know, I was doing hooks on Lil' Flip's album.

**AC:** *Flip's verse on your single "Turn It Up" along with his verse on Z-Ro's "From the South" mark something of a comeback for him. People are finally getting over hating on him for being too simple.*

**C:** The image now is that we are all simple rappers who have gold teeth and sip syrup, so that's something that I'm definitely trying to expand on. But corporate types aren't really interested in showing all of those different sides to the same coin. It's easier for them to let the stereotypical image persist. I mean, I'll probably always be identified with Houston, but the funny thing is if you listen to *Get Ya Mind Correct*, it doesn't necessarily indicate an allegiance to the Houston sound. I remember that Paul didn't even want to put "N Love Wit My Money" out as a single because he felt it had too much of a West Coast feel to it. Admittedly that album did have a limited topical range. All we were talking about was balling. I'm now trying to transcend that by thinking outside the box. If we can get to the point of releasing "They Think I'm Crazy" as the fourth single off of my current album, which is a really complicated story, then I feel we'll have really accomplished something.

**AC:** *By the sound of your schedule nowadays and those hundreds of thousands of Soundscan hits you got the first week Revenge was out, it appears you've already accomplished quite a bit.*

**C:** Man, so many people are hitting me up all day long. The label doesn't even schedule me time to eat. At this point I'm just trying to stay sane. A lot of artists in my situation allow themselves to turn into the beast. The label probably wants me to go ahead and turn into that untouchable star, but I just want to be me. ■

*The chopped and screwed version of Chamillionaire's The Sound of Revenge is due on Universal Records Feb. 7.*



# Good Night and Good Luck

Invasion of the podcasts **BY DAN OKO**

It's official: 2005 was the year of the podcast.

In the past 12 months, audio's answer to the blogosphere has become ubiquitous enough that the *Oxford American Dictionary* even named "podcast" the word of the year. Austin-based singer-songwriter Sara Hickman, a 15-year veteran of the scene, sees this emerging technology as a reason to celebrate.

"It's a wonderful way to broadcast what you do," says Hickman, who podcasts her music at [www.zenlala.com/radio](http://www.zenlala.com/radio).

Despite the fact that Hickman's primarily acoustic sounds might not mark her as an obvious early podcaster, she remains one of very few Austin artists to have taken advantage of this new technology. Of course, not everybody has figured out what podcasting – or blog-casting and audio-blogging to Apple-resistant types – is good for, or even what it is.

Podcasting is defined as a digital, electronic broadcast that can be downloaded to an iPod or other MP3 player, stored and played at will. National Public Radio has made many of its news items available through podcast; locally, KUT podcasts *Radio Without Borders*, a roundup of live studio performances from local and touring acts, hosted by Teresa Ferguson.

Like the best radio, the best podcasts entertain and surprise. Some are fan sites, run by dedicated amateurs, who are uploading their own music collections. *Radio Without Borders* ([www.kut.org](http://www.kut.org)) relies on live musicianship, a strategy that allows KUT to work around the prohibitive cost of licensing label-recorded music. Hickman's podcasts shape up as variety shows; her December installment kicks off with "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town," before she launches into an improvised song about

radio, Dean explains, is that it will allow KUT and other broadcasters more outlets, in a manner similar to cable television.

"We're trying to create new content," says Dean, who joined the local frequency in July. "We've got two years of easily accessible digital archives, and [podcasting] is one way to get our content out to new people."

Dean's office is decorated with an array of audio equipment that in many ways reflects America's mutating media landscape. He's got old-fashioned drive-in speakers hanging from his bulletin board and a microphone that looks like it was lifted from *Good Night, and Good Luck*. One curious device is the Radio Shark antennae plugged into his laptop, which essentially allows Dean to record and replay radio broadcasts à la TiVo. As for the supposition that podcasting or other alternate technologies might eat into his station's listenership, Dean maintains that KUT's top brass isn't feeling intimidated just yet.

"I don't see cable, the Internet, or podcasting as killing off radio," he says. "We've got 200,000 people listening to us. That dwarfs the number of anybody listening to podcasts."

On the commercial side, meanwhile, several major broadcasters announced earlier this month a new alliance to help push HD radio into the mainstream. One of the hurdles for the broadband radio model is that even the most basic receivers cost about \$150. Nonetheless, Clear Channel and Emmis Communications, which both have a strong local presence, are teaming up with six other nationwide companies, contributing more than \$200 million in airtime to entice the purchase of equipment that can receive the in-band, on-channel sig-

**In the past 12 months, audio's answer to the blogosphere has become ubiquitous enough that the *Oxford American Dictionary* even named "podcast" the word of the year.**

going to the library, which is then followed by some casual advice about songwriting. Then she sings and talks some more.

There are plenty of predominantly spoken-word podcasts, ranging from comedy to hard news; online magazine *Slate* offers feeds taken directly from the site's published stories. Meanwhile, with Apple's latest generation of iPods boasting video capability, video podcasts are the newest format to jam the information superhighway. Rich Dean, KUT's new maestro of alternative channels, including podcasting, says this booming technology serves the ongoing reinvention of radio.

Shifts in broadcasting include the development of online real-time streaming, and upgrading station signals to high quality in-band, on-channel broadcasts, which although not truly "high-definition" have been trademarked as "HD radio" by its main purveyor, the iBiquity company. One advantage of HD

radio, Dean explains, is that it will allow KUT and other broadcasters more outlets, in a manner similar to cable television.

"Our side channels will be commercial free for the next two years," explains Scott Gillmore of Emmis, whose local properties include KGSR and 101X.

Podcasts, which can be downloaded through Apple's iTunes and other services, nevertheless offer an array of tantalizing alternatives to hometown radio. Just as faraway listeners can tune into *Radio Without Borders*, recorded in KUT's barebones Studio 1-A (and featuring local players ranging from Hickman and Spoon to touring acts such as They Might Be Giants), Austinites can now avail themselves of shows like KCRW's *Morning Becomes Eclectic* out of Santa Monica for live sets by Gang of Four, Yerba Buena, and others. Of course, the Recording Industry Association of America, which represents major record labels, is keeping a close eye on podcasts to make



**Rich Dean, KUT's new maestro of alternative channels**

sure nobody broadcasts songs without paying licensing fees and so forth.

As with file-sharing, this means that podcasters must be careful; the threat of legal action, for instance, keeps Hickman from broadcasting her friends. Most radio stations likewise toe the line. Waterloo Records owner John Kunz says that ultimately the RIAA could end up shooting itself in the foot. While he expresses little interest in licensing songs for broadcast through the store's Web site, he celebrates the many new avenues for listeners to learn about music. He has plans to team up with independent music shops nationwide to establish more Web presence.

"The artists get it," says Kunz. "They understand the importance of providing an appetizer for the great meal to come. The content hunters at RIAA suing people just seems so misplaced to me."

Hickman, who naturally "loves Waterloo," subscribes to that popular vision of the future where independent artists forego CDs, adding that between podcasts and electronic downloads, indie labels and artists can compete with the major-label machine. That remains to be seen, of course, but the music industry is seeing a tectonic shift. The Associated Press reported last week that 2005 CD sales dipped about 7%, while album sales peaked at 618 million. At the same time, the number of singles downloaded last year increased a remarkable 148% to nearly 333 million. No one is tracking podcast downloads yet, but it's worth noting that online retailers, not artist sites, remain the primary point of purchase for singles.

At Emmis, Gillmore concedes, "any audio delivery mechanism is competition for time spent with radio," estimating that hours have dropped about an hour per week per listener. Licensing concerns, meanwhile, mean that stations like KGSR are much more likely to podcast news and information shows rather than music

itself. "This gives us a reason to focus on compelling local content," notes Gillmore, "so that we can compete with satellite and podcasts."

In Kunz's formulation, with the myriad ways listeners are determining their musical diet, the mystery remains the "ignition point" for any given act. After all, Hickman already had a following by the time her involvement with the major labels collapsed, and by all reports she's a savvy businesswoman, even landing a recent contract to have a song featured on *American Idol*. The fact remains that even in the Internet age lightning rarely strikes more than once. As podcasting and other new forms of audio media take over, it remains to be seen how our sonic environment will be curated.

For a glimpse of one potential future, there's 27-year-old former Austinite Ben Brown, who recently sold his punky, online dating service Consumating to CNet for an undisclosed sum of money that now affords him living in San Francisco. "I previously had a 100-disc changer. Now I don't use CDs. They're a dead format." Brown doesn't download musical podcasts, because good ones are still few and far between, but he does use iTunes, and not just for music, but for things like NBC's *Lost* podcasts. "The visual entertainment is a diversion," he says. "The music's a way of life." How does Brown discover new music? Through his friends' blogs.

Having survived the advent of home-taping back in the Eighties and the arrival of now-defunct chain stores like Tower Records in the Nineties, Waterloo's Kunz ultimately views the Internet and podcasting as part of a recipe that will keep his business and the Austin scene going strong.

"The channels that used to be so controlled have been turned upside-down," he says. "In an online, e-mail world, word of mouth somehow gets filtered down, and we're happy to help fill the niche that creates." ■





## THE STROKES

**First Impressions of Earth (RCA)**

If *First Impressions of Earth* isn't quite out of this world, the Strokes' third album still represents the happily jaded middle ground between the NYC garage rock quintet's first two releases. Five *Earth* years on, 2001 debut *Is This It* sounds quaint in its bubbly, almost acoustic cocoon, while sophomore slump *Room on Fire* two years later pumped up the band's muscle, but wasn't having a fire sale on hooks – the riff from "Reptilia" notwithstanding. That reptile's evolved into a relative of *Earth* opener "You Only Live Once," which may be the absolute best advice the Strokes have yet delivered, with its plumber's-pipe percussion and lope. Paired with the chop-block guitars of follow-up "Juicebox," it's half an irrepressible one-two. Nothing else attains such heights, though the needling "Heart in a Cage," Cusinart bursts of "Vision of Division," and Mooglike moods of "Ask Me Anything" come closest. Even *Is This It* rewrites "Razorblade" and "Ize of the World" float. Though the Strokes' first two efforts clocked in at the low- to mid-30-minute range, *First Impressions of Earth* orbits 52, and definitely should've split the difference ("15 Minutes"). Impressive nonetheless.

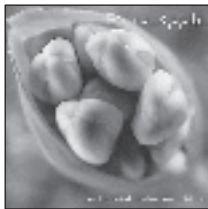
★★★ – Raoul Hernandez

## FIONA APPLE

**Extraordinary Machine (Epic)**

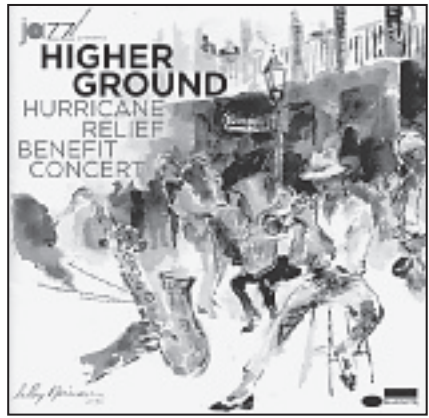
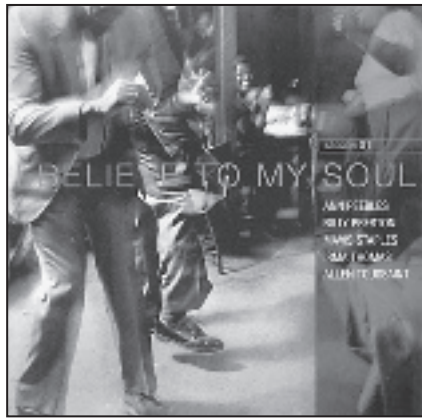
*Tidal*, Fiona Apple's 1996 debut, was once the soundtrack to my misery. We were immature back then, Fiona and I. Following 1999's substantial leap forward, *When the Pawn Hits the Conflicts He Thinks Like a King*, Apple's label-embattled third go-round proves my old pity-party buddy has reached adulthood intact. "O' Sailor," *Extraordinary Machine*'s high tide, finds Apple and her band on a ship of sound, piano and drums forming the foundation and winds, organ, and upright bass building walls around the listener as Apple's husky alto asks, "O' sailor ... what'd you do that for?" Gone is the wounded little girl confessing her woes into the microphone; in her place, an older, wiser, stronger woman who'd sooner slap you than take your abuse. Of course, it wouldn't be a Fiona Apple album without the requisite left-field stuff, which comes with the enjoyable, jazzy title track. *Extraordinary Machine* seethes from the outset, but drifts by the time "Red Red Red" appears toward the close. If the back end didn't sag, this cyborg would be unstoppable.

★★★ – Melanie Haupt



★★★★★ Perfect ★★★★★ Great ★★★★★ Good ★★★★★ Mediocre ★★★★★ Coaster

# PHASES & STAGES



## TALKING 'BOUT NEW ORLEANS

While devastating floods are nothing new to the city of New Orleans, widespread displacement of its citizens certainly is. When Louis Armstrong wondered "Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans," he never could have imagined that so many would now be feeling his expatriate pain. As the Crescent City attempts to rebuild itself and maintain its legacy as cultural wellspring, it's only fitting that musicians are stepping to the forefront of the recovery effort. Benefiting the American Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, New Orleans Musicians Clinic, Jazz Foundation of America, the Voice of the Wetlands, Higher Ground Hurricane Relief Fund, and MusiCares Hurricane Relief 2005, a series of collections has arrived to lend a helping hand. Some, such as Rounder's game **A Celebration of New Orleans Music**, fete past glories by the likes of Jelly Roll Morton, Professor Longhair, and the Dirty Dozen Brass Band. Others, like the

sublime **Our New Orleans 2005** (Nonesuch), cast contemporary luminaries including Allen Toussaint, Irma Thomas, Eddie Bo, and the Wild Magnolias reacting anew to rising waters and governmental neglect. **Dr. John** offers his own take on the bleak situation with **Sippiana Hurricane** (Blue Note), trading on the emotions of a city under siege. The prestorm sessions of **I Believe to My Soul** (Rhino), recorded by Joe Henry at Capitol Studios, recruited the resurgent efforts of Billy Preston, Mavis Staples, and Ann Peebles to the cause, a second disc preserving televised concerts on DVD. As Blue Note's **Higher Ground: Hurricane Relief Benefit Concert** at Lincoln Center contrasts the somber jazz tones of Norah Jones, Marcus Roberts, and Terence Blanchard with the resilient exuberance of Buckwheat Zydeco, **Come Together Now** (Concord) covers well-wishing ground all over the map as it brings together James Brown, Coldplay, Brian Wilson, Kanye West, and Barbra Streisand, all of whom demonstrate what it means to miss New Orleans.

– Robert Gabriel

## MADONNA

**Confessions on a Dance Floor (Warner Bros.)**

That smooch Madonna gave Britney Spears was actually a vampire's kiss. Look what became of the poor pop tart – the pimples, the disheveled clothes, *him*. And what's become of Madonna in that same time? She's returned to what she does best, ruling the dance floor. *Confessions on a Dance Floor* declares itself an unadorned valentine to the Material Girl's roots as sweetheart of the disco. Not that the years haven't been kind to her – 1998's *Ray of Light* was as exquisite as anything she's recorded, while its follow-up *Music* gave her much-needed street cred – but *Confessions* is an exuberant return to old-school form. Her songs strobe and pulse in "Forbidden Love" and "Hung Up" (which samples ABBA), and are slinky and sexy on "Jump" and "Push." These are significantly different mixes from what William Orbit might have done, but that's our Madonna, unpredictable all the way from catechism to the Kabbalah. *Confessions'* edge lies with tough anthems such as "I Love New York" more than the balladry she's tended toward of late, but that makes its flow as seamless as a DJ mix. Next time, bite Gwen Stefani.

★★★ – Margaret Moser



## KATE BUSH

**Aerial (Columbia)**

It's been a dozen years since English bird Kate Bush slipped on *The Red Shoes*, and nearly two decades since she gave us "This Woman's Work" and "Hounds of Love." Bush's expansive cry has always been her trademark, and it hasn't lost momentum on *Aerial*, a 2-

## IN BOX MILES DAVIS

**The Cellar Door Sessions 1970 (Columbia Legacy)**

This 6-CD live set was recorded Dec. 16-19, 1970, at Washington, D.C.'s Cellar Door. Trumpeter Davis heads a fusion band including Gary Bartz, alto and soprano saxes; Keith Jarrett, electric piano and electric organ; John McLaughlin, guitar (discs five and six); Michael Henderson, bass; Jack DeJohnette, drums; and Airta Moreira, percussion. The music is layered, with plenty of interplay between the rhythm section. Henderson, then a teenager whose main experience had been in R&B, plays relatively simple lines, but gives the band a solid base on which to build. DeJohnette demonstrates a definite rock and R&B influence, but plays with much sophistication, while Moreira fills the cracks, sometimes using vocal effects. Ultimately, however, Jarrett is the overriding presence in the rhythm section, his solos the high point of this set. These are some of the most rugged, funkier spots he's ever recorded, yet they're full of substantive ideas and well put together. The direct, no-nonsense quality of his solos is admirable. McLaughlin plays laudably, demonstrating impressive chops and a rich imagination. If only the horn players were in better form. Bartz is inconsistent, Davis disappointing. Maybe Miles was thinking of himself more as the lead voice of a collectively improvising ensemble than a soloist. He plays in fits and starts, screaming, improvising complex but sloppily executed runs, not making good use of wah-wah effects. His efforts don't hold together well. The loose group concept might be prime suspect in Davis' cliché-filled performance, but there's Jarrett, member of the same group, playing so well. Jazz fans tend to think of and evaluate Davis' fusion recordings as a whole, but actually there's a wide variation in their quality, and that should be kept in mind when purchasing them.

★★★

– Harvey Pekar



CD set separated into *A Sea of Honey* and *A Sky of Honey*. Those expecting radical transformation, rejuvenation of the soul, well, you might be disappointed. Instead, *Aerial* keeps Bush's lyrical prowess intact, nature vs. nurture not an issue. On "π," she rambles off numbers and it sounds more like sorcery. "Bertie" is an ode to her young son, ostensibly the reason for Bush's recording absence, while on "Mrs.



Bartolozzi" she sits at the piano and repeats "washing machine" until she manages to sound sensual rather than Stepfordian. The music ranges from lo-fi piano and percussion to muted strings, reaching at times into an adult nu-jazz flatline. Songs like *Sky's* "An Architect's Dream," which flows seamlessly into the pastoral hues of "Sunset" ("if the skies turn dark, we may live on in comets and stars"), bring back the mood. This is Kate Bush's domestic album. Listen to it stoned on a Sunday afternoon.

★★★ – Audra Schroeder



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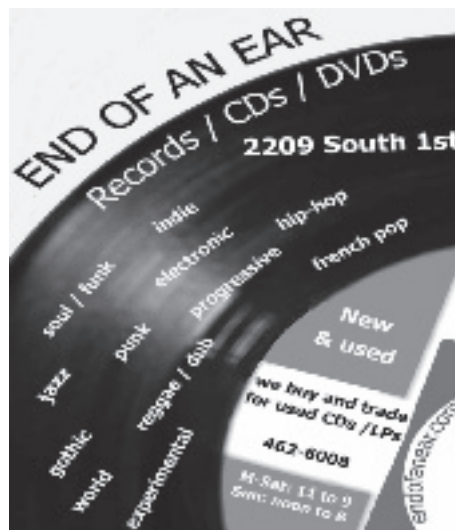


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## LEAD STORY

Bangkok economics student Panupol Sujayakorn interrupted his studies in November to defend his World *Scrabble* Championship in London, one of many non-English-speaking competitors who achieved top-of-the-line ranking by memorizing up to 100,000 words in English without ever knowing their meanings. Like the others, reported the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Mr. Panupol learned first those premium words that overuse the prominent *Scrabble* letter tiles (such as “aureolae”). (Alas, this time around, a native English speaker, Dr. Adam Logan, a number theory researcher, won the title, building actual words like “qanat” and “euriipi.”)

## CLICHES COME TO LIFE

1) In November in Murfreesboro, Tenn., U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs bureaucrats Joseph Haymond and Natalie Coker were charged with taking kickbacks from suppliers on government purchases of 100,000 rolls of red tape. (The tape is distinctive, red “security” tape used on packages of VA pharmaceuticals.)  
2) According to a November *Washington Post* profile of federal examiner Russell Stormer, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has, since 1790, granted about 30,000 patents to people who have imagined unique ways to reinvent the wheel (or at least improve upon it).

## IRONIES

- Most Convenient Ambulance Chase: In November, according to an *Indianapolis Star* report of a local accident, an SUV driver collided with another car, causing the SUV to crash into an office building, partially smashing through a wall. Among the building’s tenants: the personal-injury law firm Mitchell Hurst Jacobs & Dick, which specializes in automobile accidents.
- Mr. Rayfran das Neves Sales was convicted in Belem, Brazil, in December of the widely reported murder of an American rain-forest-activist nun, who was gunned down as he argued with Sales over who owned the land he was working. Sales claimed self-defense, in that, according to him, the nun reached into her bag as she was proclaiming that “the weapon I have (for fighting for preservation of the rain forest) is this,” and Sales, sensing that she was about to pull a gun, shot her. The nun’s “weapon,” was, of course, her copy of what countless preachers refer to as a primary “weapon” against sin: the Bible.



BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



**Scientists at Syracuse University, recently describing for a British journal their study of body measurements of bats, found an inverse size relationship between a male bat’s brain and testicles. The researchers hypothesized that both sperm and brains are metabolically costly to produce, and in species with relatively stable monogamous relationships, brains are allowed to grow, but where females are promiscuous, males that do not overdevelop testicles get left out of the race to procreate.**

## CAN’T POSSIBLY BE TRUE

- After trying for 22 years to get Hattie Siegel, now 83, to mow her lawn and clear the other critter-infested vegetation from her yard according to regulations of the village of Tequesta, Fla., officials finally cracked down on the accumulated \$1.8 million in fines they had levied, and in December, a bankruptcy court ruled that she must liquidate her estate to pay the tab. Two other properties of hers were sold, and she stands to lose more (everything except the Tequesta house itself, which is protected by state law). However, Siegel has finally sought help in the matter and plans to challenge the constitutionality of the village’s fines.
- A bold weight-loss program of the Life of Life Healing Spa in Hong Kong involves actually setting fire briefly to the parts of the body holding the most fat, according to a December dis-

patch in London’s *Daily Telegraph*. According to owner Karen Chu, the fire follows an energy flow “reading,” full-body exfoliation, high-pressure hose spray, and herb-and-potion and alcohol rubdowns (but wet towels and a fire extinguisher are at the ready in case of problems). Chu said about 100 clients have undergone the treatment, with no complications, and the ones interviewed by the *Daily Telegraph* reporter praised the service. Chu said the treatment is based on traditional Chinese medicine, but a Hong Kong doctor interviewed by Agence France-Presse said, “I have never heard of such a thing.”

## INEXPLICABLE

The land developer Bigg Homes, creator of the Eagle Mountain community near Salt Lake City, touted in its online promotional materials the fact that the development’s

“[b]lack race population percentage [is] significantly below state average.” After hearing complaints, Bigg co-owner David Adams removed the phrase in November, blaming the agency that designed Bigg’s materials. (Whoever wrote the phrase must have thought that Utah’s “state average” of 1.3 blacks per 100 was somehow suffocating.)

## UNCLEAR ON THE CONCEPT

In September, based on the complaint of only one letter-writer (and that man later said he was more being provocative than complaining), the band director of C.D. Hylton High School in Prince William County, Va., dropped from his playlist the popular Charlie Daniels Band song, “The Devil Went Down to Georgia,” because it centers on Satan. Daniels, interviewed by *The Washington Post*, was appalled: “I am a Christian, and I don’t write pro-devil songs.”

## YEE-HAH!

Sidney Hale, 31, was arrested in Bluefield, Va., in November after enlisting a female friend to help him to, as he put it, sharpen his reflexes in case an intruder broke into his trailer home. The woman was to knock at the front door, and Hale was then to quickly grab his handgun. (A third person was to gauge Hale’s reaction time.) According to a sheriff’s detective, she knocked, and Hale grabbed the gun. However, it accidentally fired a slug through the door into the woman’s back (but she is fine following surgery). And in December in Lake Worth, Fla., a 16-year-old boy found a .45-caliber bullet, began eagerly pounding it with a hammer and screwdriver, and shot himself in the stomach. (He was treated and released at a hospital.)

## HAPLESS CRIMINALS

1) Francisco Torres, 52, wanted for murder in New York City, was arrested at Lincoln Hospital in November, after he checked in at the emergency room. According to police, he had suffered a severe asthma attack apparently triggered by the gunpowder residue from the bullet he fired at his victim. 2) Former Miami police Officer Jesus Gutierrez, 35, charged with having sex with an underage girl, was initially offered a plea bargain that would have meant probation and no jail time, but he decided to go to trial. In September, he was convicted, and in December, a judge sentenced him to 20 years in prison.

Send your *Weird News* to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or [weirdnews@earthlink.net](mailto:weirdnews@earthlink.net)  
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AUSTIN BAND OF THE YEAR:

AUSTIN MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR:

AUSTIN SONG OF THE YEAR:

AUSTIN ALBUM OF THE YEAR:

BEST NEW AUSTIN BAND:

## Best Performing Bands

ROCK:

PUNK:

METAL:

INDUSTRIAL/GOTH:

DJ:

POP:

JAZZ:

BLUES:

HIP-HOP:

INSTRUMENTAL:

EXPERIMENTAL:

COUNTRY:

BLUEGRASS:

ROOTS ROCK:

FOLK:

LATIN TRADITIONAL:

LATIN CONTEMPORARY:

WORLD MUSIC:

COVER BAND:

KID BAND (majority of members under 18):

NOVELTY:

NONE OF THE ABOVE:

## Best Austin Musicians

FEMALE VOCALS:

MALE VOCALS:

ELECTRIC GUITAR:

ACOUSTIC GUITAR:

BASS:

DRUMS:

KEYBOARDS:

HORNS:

STRINGS:

MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUMENT:

SONGWRITER:

RECORD PRODUCER (producer name, CD title):

## Related Categories

NEW CLUB:

LIVE MUSIC VENUE:

ACOUSTIC VENUE:

ALL-AGES VENUE:

RECORD STORE:

INSTRUMENT/EQUIPMENT STORE:

RADIO STATION:

RADIO PROGRAM (show, deejay, station):

RADIO MUSIC PROGRAM (show, deejay, station):

RADIO PERSONALITY (show, deejay, station):

BAND WEB SITE (band, URL):

LOCAL MUSIC TV SERIES (local program, local acts):

MUSIC VIDEO/DVD:

CONCERT POSTER (band, club, date, artist):

JOURNALIST/CRITIC/WRITER:

COVER ART (title, band, artist):

CONCERT BY A TOURING BAND (band, venue, date):

## Texas Music Hall of Fame Nominations

Is Biscuit in the Hall of Fame? What about Roky and Willie? Previous winners are listed on the Web at [austinchronicle.com/musicpoll/fame](http://austinchronicle.com/musicpoll/fame). (The answer is YES.)

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE OR FILL IN THE BLANK\*:

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John Andrews  
Asleep at the Wheel  
The Big Boys  
Bubble Puppy  
Butthole Surfers  
Dangerous Toys  
Ed Hall  
The Fireballs  
Kinky Friedman  
The Geezinslaws  
Blues Boy Hubbard  
Ray Wylie Hubbard

Killer Bees  
James McMurtry  
Ernie Mae Miller  
Pariah  
Paul Ray & the Cobras  
Poison 13  
The Reivers  
Spoon  
Soul Hat  
Jesse Taylor  
2 Hoots & a Holler  
Wild Seeds

Who are these people and why should you vote for them? Visit the poll ballot online at [austinchronicle.com/musicpoll](http://austinchronicle.com/musicpoll) for more information!

OTHER NOMINEE\*

## Required Information

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

AGE

PHONE

**ONLY BALLOTS WITH A FULL NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS WILL BE COUNTED!**

Please mail to: Music Poll  
The Austin Chronicle  
PO Box 49066  
Austin, TX 78765



# calendar

## this week

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12 - THURSDAY, JANUARY 19

c

COMMUNITY p.58 +

a

RTS p.62 +

f

ILM p.68 +

m

USIC listings p.78

## COMMUNITY LISTINGS

(PLUS HIGHLIGHTS FROM **ARTS, FILM, AND MUSIC**) BY DIANA WELCH

## Thursday 1 2

**BETTER WELL-READ THAN DEAD** The kids are tired of all this in-school military recruiting bull-honkey, and they're not afraid to show it. In support of the campaign to demilitarize AISD and to promote education over warfare, Youth Activists of Austin invite all those younger than 19 to bring books, blankets, tea, coffee, or hot cocoa to this demo outside of AISD Headquarters. 4:30-5:45pm. AISD, 1111 W. Sixth, 414-1700. Free.

**BIKES ACROSS BORDERS COMMUNITY BIKE SHOP** 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free. [bikesacrossborders@riseup.net](mailto:bikesacrossborders@riseup.net).

**BOARD GAME NIGHT AT VENTANA DEL SOUL** 6pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. Free.

**COMMUNITY DINNER** Sup with the folks of the Rhizome Collective. Donations of pots, pans, food containers, spices, and the like are welcome. Volunteer prep, 4-6pm; community dinner, 6-7pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free.

**EMANCIPET FREE THURSDAYS** Check their Web site to see when this mobile spay-neuter clinic will be in your neighborhood! 8am, check-in begins (first come, first served). Emancipet, 601 E. Airport, 587-SPAY. Free. [www.emancipet.org](http://www.emancipet.org).

**GETTING UNDER YOUR SKIN: VARICOSE VEINS REVEALED** with Dr. Emery W. Dilling. RSVP 6:30-8pm. Seton Northwest Hospital, 11113 Research, 324-4456. Free.

**INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT VOLUNTEER NIGHT** 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695.

**SPEAK OUT ON NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND** People of all ages, hear this! Now's your chance to weigh in on the impact that the No Child Left Behind Act has had on you, your school, and your com-

## Jay, hooray, MLK (Jr.)!

(SEE SUNDAY AND MONDAY)

munity. Your experiences with the program will be published along with the results from nine other meetings nationwide and distributed to folks at federal, state, and local levels of government. So, if you have problems with the way your community's public school gets funding from your government, speak up! And tell everyone at your school! And don't be afraid to ask questions! OK! 4-7pm. George Washington Craver Museum & Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina. Free. [www.givekidsgoodschools.org](http://www.givekidsgoodschools.org).

**TAKING CONTROL: A FINANCIAL WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN** Learn financial strategies that will help you send your kids to college, save on taxes, and retire in comfort. Hosted by the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. RSVP 11:30am-1pm. T.G. Jorge's, 2203 Hancock, 462-1502. Free.

**THE STOREHOUSE** Hungry? Broke? Come and eat. 10am-2pm. The Storehouse, 111-A Ramble Ln. #120. Free. [info@the-storehouse.org](mailto:info@the-storehouse.org).

**LITERA** (See Arts Listings)

**Erik Marcus** BookPeople

**ART OPENINGS** (See Visual Arts)

**Chez Zee American Bistro**

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)

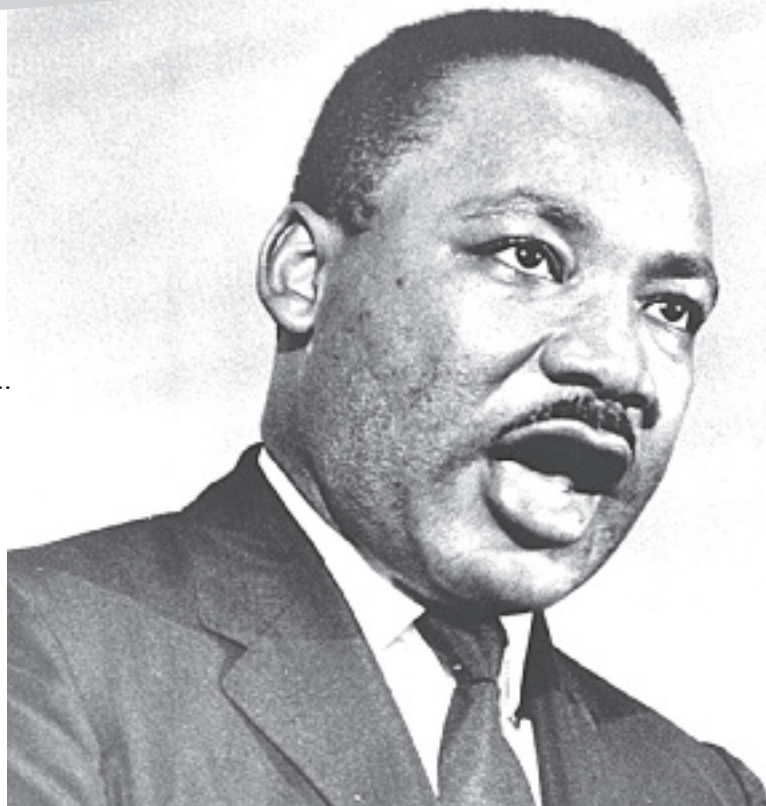
**That Man: Peter Berlin** @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm

**The Princess Bride** @ Paramount, 7pm

**Trapped in the Closet: The R. Kelly Sing-Along** @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm

**MUSIC** (See Music Listings)

**Tattoo Convention Opening Night Party** Emo's  
**Whit Smith & His Hot Jazz Caravan** Threadgill's  
World HQ  
**Ghost of the Russian Empire** Whisky Bar



## Friday 1 3

**CONVERSATIONAL FRENCH CLASSES** 1pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase.

**EMANCIPET'S FREE FRIDAYS** Check their Web site to see when this mobile spay-neuter clinic will be in your neighborhood! 8am, check in begins (first come, first served). Emancipet, 601 E. Airport, 587-SPAY. Free. [www.emancipet.com](http://www.emancipet.com).

**MISPRINT ZINE PARTY** (See Club Listings) 8:30pm. Flamingo Cantina, 515 E. Sixth, 494-9336. \$5-7.

**NAVIGATING BREAST CANCER TOGETHER** 6-8:30pm. St. David's Health Resource Center, 3000 N. I-35, 472-1738 x100.

**YOUTH MEDIA COLLECTIVE BENEFIT CONCERT**

All proceeds go to the nonprofit program that promotes news made by kids for kids. (See Club Listings) 7pm. Quack's 43rd Street Bakery, 411 E. 43rd, 453-3399. \$4.

**COMEDY** (See Arts Listings)

**The Chicken and Pickle Guys** Velveeta Room

**ART OPENINGS** (See Visual Arts)

**Iron Gate Studios**

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)

**Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic**

@ Alamo Drafthouse South, 12mid  
**The Princess Bride** @ Paramount, 7pm

## the young ones

**BORDERS North** Children's story times are always fun. *Thursdays*, 10:30am; *Saturdays*, 11am. **Borders**, 10225 Research, 795-9553. **South** Children's story times are always tons of fun here, too. *Fridays and Saturdays*, 11am. **Borders**, 4477 S. Lamar, 891-8974.

**HANCOCK RECREATION CENTER** offers child care for children ages 3-5. All instructors are CPR/First Aid certified. *Available Mon.-Fri.* Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-7765.

**R.O.C.K. CHILDREN'S CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM** is gearing up for the new year. Register your child (age 7-17) for **Capoeira** classes with Da'mon on *Thursdays*, 6-7pm; for the younger set (ages 3-15), there are **River City Twirl & Dance** classes on *Saturdays*, 10:15am-noon. *Reflections of Christ's Kingdom*, 5800 E. MLK, 926-9600. Call for tuition information.

**SHOTS FOR TOTS** Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services offer free immunizations at two locations. **Far South Clinic:** *Mondays*, 10am-1:30pm & 3-6:45pm; *Tuesdays & Thursdays*, 8-11:30am & 1-4:45pm; *Wednesdays & Fridays* (walk-in clinic), 9am-1pm. **Far South Clinic**, 405 W. Stassney. **St. John Clinic:** *Mondays & Thursdays*, 8-11:30am & 1-4:45pm; *Tuesdays*, 10am-1:30pm & 3-6:45pm; *Wednesdays & Fridays* (walk-in

clinic), 8-11:30am; *third Saturday of the month*, 9am-1pm. **St. John Clinic**, 7500 Blessing. 972-5520. Free.

**NATURAL EAR MUSIC SCHOOL** is looking for kids ages 8-13 to join rock & roll bands forming in January. In addition to kid bands, they also offer lessons and rock & roll camps during the winter and summer. 447-5910. \$575, semester. [april@naturalearmusic.com](mailto:april@naturalearmusic.com), [www.naturalearmusic.com](http://www.naturalearmusic.com).

**GUITAR CLASSES FOR GIRLS** taught by a degreed female instructor. Ages 6 and older. 809-7799. *Group classes starting at \$10 (private classes available).* [emilymarks@hotmail.com](mailto:emilymarks@hotmail.com).

**GROUNDWATER ESSAY CONTEST FOR \$1,500 SCHOLARSHIP PRIZE** Hey, high school seniors. Write an essay about groundwater issues (you know, like pollution prevention, water conservation, or hydrogeology) and yours might be one of the two winning essays selected by an independent evaluation panel. (If you've completed the GED in the past 6 months, you can give it go, too.) See the Web site for more information. *Essays and applications must be received by March 1, 2006.* 282-8441. [www.bseacd.org/scholarship\\_program.htm](http://www.bseacd.org/scholarship_program.htm).

**GERMAN SATURDAY SCHOOL** offers basic language instruction for kids ages 5-13. Register now for the 12-week course beginning Jan. 21. *Saturdays*,

9:30-11:30am. German Free School, 507 E. 10th, 482-4847. \$150, 12 weeks. [www.germantexans.org](http://www.germantexans.org).

**CONNECTING CHILDREN TO BOOKS** features the wonderful Miss Tiffany with a story each Friday. *Fridays*, 10am. *Connections Resource Center*, 825 E. 53rd Ste. E-101, 478-5725 x214. [www.connectionscenter.org](http://www.connectionscenter.org).

**YOUTH DANCE SERIES** teaches teens and young adults how to boogie in a variety of styles, including social, Latin, and ballroom in a no-pressure atmosphere. *Wednesdays & Saturdays*. Middle School Class, 4pm; High School Class, 5pm. *Wednesdays*: 8611 Green Valley Dr.; *Saturdays*: Hills Fitness Center, 4615 Bee Caves Rd. [www.dancein.org](http://www.dancein.org).

**DADS AND DAUGHTERS PLAYGROUP** offers a chance for young girls (ages 2-3) to hang out with their Pops and do sporty things on the weekend. But, since these are nice people, they'd like to stress that it doesn't have to be a daughter/dad combo. They don't want to make anyone feel unwanted, after all. Call or e-mail for more info. *Various locations*, 990-2624. [ausitnlabraders@yahoo.com](mailto:ausitnlabraders@yahoo.com).

**GIANT CHESS GAME** Play knee-high chess! Volunteers are

needed on an ongoing basis (chess skills not required). Plus, another reason to become a Park Pal: You can borrow the set for at-home games. *Saturdays*, 12:30-3:30pm. [www.austinparks.org/volunteer.html](http://www.austinparks.org/volunteer.html).

**MITCHIE'S STORY TIME** features African and African-American folktales with refreshments, a free gift, and 30% off book purchases. *Wednesdays and Saturdays*, 1-2pm. *Mitchie's Fine Black Art & Gift Gallery*, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901.

**RUTA MAYA KIDS** presents a kids show weekly with entertainers like Laura Freeman, Sam Moses, and Drumming With Mr. Steve. Drinks and breakfast items available for sale. *Sundays*, 10:30am. Ruta Maya Cafe, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free. [www.rutamaya.net](http://www.rutamaya.net).

**AMERICAN YOUTH WORKS ENROLLMENT MEETINGS** AYW offers a free fast-paced curriculum for motivated 16 to 20-year-old students. *Mondays*, 5:30-6:30pm. *American YouthWorks*, 1900 E. Ben White, 472-8220. Free.

**STORIES-N-MORE** is a special event featuring stories, games, songs, and arts and crafts for kids and their parents. *Jan. 17-19. Tue., 10:15am. Cepeda Branch*, 651 N. Pleasant Valley, 974-7372; *Wed., 10:15am. Carver Branch*, 1161 Angelina, 974-1010; *Thu., 10:15am. University Hills Branch*, 4721 Loyola, 929-0551. Free.



**TODDLER STORYTIME AT AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY** You couldn't throw a rock without hitting a bunch of toddlers listening to stories this spring. So, uh, don't throw rocks. *Tuesdays*, 10:15am: *Milwood Branch*, 12500 Amherst, 339-2355; *Hampton Branch* at Oak Hill, 5125 Convict Hill, 892-6680; *Howson Branch*, 2500 Exposition, 472-3584; *North Village Branch*, 2139 W. Anderson, 458-2239; *Pleasant Hill Branch*, 211 E. William Cannon, 974-3940. *Wednesdays*, 10:15am: *Hampton Branch* at Oak Hill; *Milwood Branch*; *Thursdays*, 10:15am: *Pleasant Hill Branch*. Free. [www.ci.austin.tx.us/library](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library).

**PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS ON DYSLLEXIA** Learn about dyslexia and the resources available in your community. *Mon., Dec. 12, 11:30am-1pm. Scottish Rite Learning Center*, 1622 E. Riverside, 472-1231. Free.

**BILINGUAL STORYTIME** *Wednesdays*, 10:15am. *St. John Branch Library*, 7500 Blessing. Free.

**BOOKS AND BABIES** for li'l baldies and their folks. *Thursdays*, 10:15am. *Ages 12-20 months; 11:15am. Under 12 months. Carver Library*, 1161 Angelina, 472-8954. Free. [www.ci.austin.tx.us/library](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library).

**"THE TELLING POOL" BOOKSIGNING** with author David Clement Davies. *Thu., Jan. 19, 7pm. BookPeople*, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. [bookkids@bookpeople.com](http://bookkids@bookpeople.com), [www.bookpeople.com](http://www.bookpeople.com).



# Saturday 14

**AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET** 9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, Fourth & Guadalupe, 236-0074. Free. [www.austinfarmersmarket.org](http://www.austinfarmersmarket.org).

**BOOK BONANZA** Free books! Piles and piles! 10am. Faulk Central Library, 800 Guadalupe; Friends Monster Book Store, 1800 S. Fifth, 974-7400. [www.cityofaustin.org/library/news/nr20030625.htm](http://www.cityofaustin.org/library/news/nr20030625.htm).

**CITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE** 10am-5pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 441-2828. \$5, two-day pass (free, kids younger than 12). [info@cwgs.com](mailto:info@cwgs.com).

**FOOD NOT BOMBS** feeds people delicious, healthy, and free food. Volunteers are always needed for prep. Cooking: 11am-2pm. House of Commons, 2610 Rio Grande; serving: 3-5pm. Wooldridge Square Park, Guadalupe between Ninth & 10th. [fbn@austin@gooutside.net](mailto:fbn@austin@gooutside.net).

**FRIENDS OF MCKINNEY FALLS** are getting together to celebrate Austin's more than 700 wooded acres along Onion Creek with children's activities, guided hikes, and refreshments. 10am. McKinney Falls State Park, 5808 McKinney Falls Pkwy., 243-1643. [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest).

**GUIDED HIKES** Cover about 4 miles of rugged terrain in Austin's only state natural area. 9-11am. Bright Leaf State Natural Area, 4400 Crestway, 459-7269.

**LIVING CONSCIOUSLY THROUGH THE BLESSING OF SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION** Dr. Bob Lively presents nine spiritual disciplines to the recovery community. 10am-noon. Austin Recovery, 8402 Cross Park, 697-8600. Free. [www.austinrecovery.org](http://www.austinrecovery.org).

**SOUTH MANCHACA ART MARKET** 9am-2pm. 11800 Manchaca Rd.. [www.soaustin.com](http://www.soaustin.com).

**TEA SEMINAR I** Learn more than you'll ever need to know about tea while grubbing on the free scones. Registration required. 4:30pm. Private residence., 330-9991. [www.teambassy.com](http://www.teambassy.com).

**TREEFOLKS TREE PLANTING** Help grow an urban forest! TreeFolks has plans to get growth going in our parklands, medians, schools, and other public spaces. All you need to bring is yourself (and some friends) in comfortable work clothes and closed-toe shoes. Refreshments and tools will be provided. 9am. Corner of Airport & MLK, 443-5323. [scott@treefolks.org](mailto:scott@treefolks.org). [www.treefolks.org](http://www.treefolks.org).

**WEST SIXTH STREET ARTISTS' MARKET** 10am-6pm. 709 W. Sixth, 698-8099. [www.6thstreetmarket.com](http://www.6thstreetmarket.com).

**YELLER DAWG DEMOCRATS BRUNCH & DISCUSSION** 11am. Tres Amigos, 1801 S. Capital of TX Hwy., 327-1776. [bmcafee@austin.rr.com](mailto:bmcafee@austin.rr.com).

**YOGA YOGA TEACHER TRAINING OPEN HOUSE** is your last chance to sign up for the Spring teacher training! 1-3pm. Yoga Yoga South, 1700 S. Lamar, 326-2273. Free. [www.yogayoga.com/training](http://www.yogayoga.com/training).

**THE STOREHOUSE** 10am-2pm. The Storehouse, 111-A Ramble Ln. #120. Free. [info@the-storehouse.org](mailto:info@the-storehouse.org). (See Thursday 01/12)

**ART OPENINGS** (See Visual Arts)  
**Art Palace, Lora Reynolds Gallery**

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)  
**Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic** @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 12mid

# Sunday 15

**ATHEIST COMMUNITY OF AUSTIN LECTURE SERIES** takes a look at the Inner Space Caverns from an atheist perspective. God don't make no caves! 12:30pm. Inner Space Cavern, Georgetown, 371-2911. [lectures@atheist-community.org](mailto:lectures@atheist-community.org). [www.atheist-community.org](http://www.atheist-community.org). [www.innerspace.com](http://www.innerspace.com).

**BENEFIT FOR STEVE CARTER'S MEDICAL EXPENSES** Help out this longtime Austinite, co-founder of Pressure and current guitarist for the Mau Mau Chaplains. (See Club Listings) 5pm. Flamingo Cantina, 515 E. Sixth, 494-9336. \$10, donation.

**DIAMOND WAY BUDDHISM MEDITATION MEETING** 7pm. 5900 Dunbury, 371-9803. [www.diamondway.org/austin](http://www.diamondway.org/austin).

**ESPERANTO CLUB MEETING** 3pm. Texpresso, 2700 W. Anderson Ln., 467-9898. [www.esperantoaustin.org](http://www.esperantoaustin.org).

**HAPPY LIVING WITH JUSTICE** offers a free yoga practice, followed by a meeting to increase awareness on environmental, peace, and justice issues. Locations vary. 4-6pm. 292-8093. Free. [happylivingwithjustice@gmail.com](mailto:happylivingwithjustice@gmail.com).

**INSIDE BOOKS VOLUNTEER NIGHT** 7pm-12mid. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695.

**KOOP HOEDOWN** Help KOOP radio recover from the recent fire at their studio by attending this blue-grassy fundraiser. (See Club Listings) 4pm. Shoal Creek Saloon, 909 N. Lamar, 474-0805. \$5.

**LIBERTARIAN DISCUSSION GROUP** hosted by Terry Liberty Parker. 6:30pm. Hickory Street Bar & Grille, 800 Congress, 477-8968. Free. [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/libertarian](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/libertarian).

**MEDITATION & DISCUSSION GROUP: DEVELOPING THE GOOD HEART** This ongoing series is based upon the teachings of the Tibetan Buddhist tradition of Lama Tsong Khapa. Discussions and meditations will be facilitated by Bonnie Baptist, a lay-student of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and others. Sundays, 2-4pm. Heart Song, 2700 W. Anderson Ln. #320. Donations accepted. [www.austinfpm.com](http://www.austinfpm.com).

**MLK CELEBRATION: YOUTH LEGACY AWARDS RECEPTION** recognizes high-schoolers throughout Austin for their accomplishments in such categories as fine arts, community service, education, religion, athletics, and "Beating the Odds." 4pm. St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8400. Free. [www.mlkcelebration.com/index.php](http://www.mlkcelebration.com/index.php).

**POLITICAL SEGREGATION, OR, WHERE DID ALL THE REPUBLICANS/DEMOCRATS GO?** with writer Bill Bishop. 11:30am-12:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free. [www.austinuu.org](http://www.austinuu.org).

**CITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE** 11am-5pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 441-2828. \$5, two-day pass (free, kids younger than 12). [info@cwgs.com](mailto:info@cwgs.com).

**GUIDED HIKES** 9-11am. Bright Leaf State Natural Area, 4400 Crestway, 459-7269. (See Saturday)

**WEST SIXTH STREET ARTISTS' MARKET** 10am-6pm. 709 W. Sixth, 698-8099. [www.6thstreetmarket.com](http://www.6thstreetmarket.com).

**LITERA** (See Arts Listings)  
**Dr. Davidson Loehr** BookPeople

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)  
**Nosferatu: The Vampire** @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm  
**The Princess Bride** @ Paramount, 7pm  
**Trapped in the Closet: The R. Kelly Sing-Along** @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm

# Monday 16

**AUSTIN AGAINST WAR MEETING** 7pm. 2107 San Antonio, 323-9778. [aaw@austinagainstarwar.org](mailto:aaw@austinagainstarwar.org). [www.austinagainstarwar.org](http://www.austinagainstarwar.org).

**AUSTIN POND SOCIETY MEETING** 7pm. LCRA Hancock Building, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. [www.austinpondsociety.org](http://www.austinpondsociety.org).

**AUSTIN TRAVEL CIRCLE MEETING** 7pm. Austin International Youth Hostel, 2200 Lakeshore, 444-2294. Free. [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/austintravelcircle](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/austintravelcircle).

**CAPITOL CITY HIGHLANDERS PIPE BAND** offer free lessons at their practices each week. 5:30-6:30pm. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 346-3123 or 567-1282. Free.

**CENTRAL AUSTIN TOASTMASTERS MEETING** 6-7pm. Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, 2200 Justin. [www.tmd55.org/centralaustin](http://www.tmd55.org/centralaustin).

**CLAIRVOYANT TRAINING** 7:30-9:30pm. Call for exact location, 560-5193. [intuitiveguide@yahoo.com](mailto:intuitiveguide@yahoo.com), [www.intuitivestudiesaustin.com](http://www.intuitivestudiesaustin.com).

## SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. The deadline for the Jan. 27 issue is Monday, Jan. 16. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the Chronicle, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Kate X Messer or Kate Getty (The Gay Place): [gayplace@austinchronicle.com](mailto:gayplace@austinchronicle.com).

Mark Fagan (Sports): [gameplans@austinchronicle.com](mailto:gameplans@austinchronicle.com).

Diana Welch (everything else): [calendar@austinchronicle.com](mailto:calendar@austinchronicle.com).

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor, 454-5766 or [brenner@austinchronicle.com](mailto:brenner@austinchronicle.com).

# the GAY place

BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

**AUSTIN FAERIE CIRCLE** is a group for alternative/progressive gay men who understand the goodness of all things fae. Yae! [groups.yahoo.com/group/thcfes/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/thcfes/).

**UT GSC LISTSERV** UT's Gender & Sexuality Center maintains, among other fabulous things, a helluva listserv. To submit something for the GSC's list or to subscribe to the e-mail list, please send an e-mail. [gsc@uts.cc.utexas.edu](mailto:gsc@uts.cc.utexas.edu).

**UT GENDER & SEXUALITY CENTER** The hard-won UT GSC, which just opened its doors last year is already hearing the grumbles of the campus Young Conservatives. Now's the time to get in there and support the GSC. Ironically, their mission is support, but that's a hard one to do when you are under fire. Don't let it get to that point. Call them. Ask them what they need. 232-4680. [deanofstudents.utexas.edu/gsc](mailto:deanofstudents.utexas.edu/gsc).

**ASSACRE** still seeks strong, muscular, football-player-built men in Austin to be in his new music video. Shooting will take up to three hours in exchange for free beer and snacks. Call or e-mail Ben for details. Hhhhhut. Oh, and speaking of Assacre, catch this weekend's show at Room 710 with the Sword and

For more gay stuff, see Calendar online: [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com). Send gay bits to [gayplace@austinchronicle.com](mailto:gayplace@austinchronicle.com).

**DEVELOP YOUR PSYCHIC ABILITIES** RSVP ... with your mind! 7-9pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$100, four-week course.

**INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNION MEETING** 8pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. [www.iww.org](http://www.iww.org).

Black Tusk. Thu., Jan. 12. Room 710, 710 Red River, 779-9096. [info@assacre.com](mailto:info@assacre.com), [www.assacre.com](http://www.assacre.com), [www.myspace.com/assacre](http://www.myspace.com/assacre).

**FOODIES** Celebrate a new year with **Women Who Love Women Who Love Food!** E-mail Kitty to get on the list. [foodiesaustin@ultraultra.net](mailto:foodiesaustin@ultraultra.net), [www.ultraultra.net](http://www.ultraultra.net).

**OOOH HUNKY DUTCHBOYS IN TIGHT TROUSERS! That Man: Peter Berlin** plays tonight. Hottt. Thu., Jan. 12, 7pm. Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 409-B Colorado, 476-1320. \$6.50. [www.agliff.org](http://www.agliff.org).

**A TUNA GRETCHEN** The night after Gretchen plays solo at Flips (Fri., Jan. 13, 9pm), she helps the Tuna ladies with their tour launch at Austin Java! Sat., Jan. 14, 8pm. Austin Java Cafe & Bar, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829; 1608 Barton Springs Rd., 482-9450.

**AUSTIN LONESTARS RUGBY CLUB** practices Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:45-9pm. Burnet Middle School, 3000 S. I-35, 841-8289. [www.lonestarsrugby.org](http://www.lonestarsrugby.org).

**SHE SAYS** meets Tuesdays. This is the prime place to find UT dkyes. Hook 'em! 6pm. [www.queerut.org/shesays](http://www.queerut.org/shesays).



"Best outdoor events."  
- The Austin Chronicle Readers Poll

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let's go


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Representative Dawnna Dukes and the recipients of the Youth Legacy Awards. 8am-3pm. *Huston-Tillotson University*, 900 Chicon, 505-3139. Free. [www.mlkcelebration.com/index.php](http://www.mlkcelebration.com/index.php).

**OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS MEETING** Call for location. 327-2802. Free. [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org).

**WEEKLY CHESS TOURNAMENT** This five-round Swiss system tournament has been ruling the food court for 10 years now. 7pm. *Dobie Center*, 2021 *Guadalupe* (Dobie Mall, Plaza), 505-1000. \$1 to play.

**YEAR OF BODHISATTVA RENAISSANCE AWAKENING: A PROGRAM OF EDUCATION FOR LIBERATING ENLIGHTENMENT** Awakeners reshape their lives by tapping hidden powers of their bodies and minds. So, uh, what do you do? 7-8:30pm. *Shambhala Meditation Center*, 1702 S. Fifth, 771-3184. \$10. [kayoneill@earthlink.net](mailto:kayoneill@earthlink.net).

**LITERA** (See Arts Listings)  
**Texas Monthly Author Series: Wonkette**  
*BookPeople*

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)  
**James Brown Live at the Boston Garden 1968**  
@ *Alamo Drafthouse Downtown*, 9:45pm

## Tuesday 17

**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF WOMEN ACCOUNTANTS MEETING** RSVP 6-8pm. *Olive Garden Italian Restaurant*, 8833 Burnet, 425-5815. \$15. [viola-zimmerman@tmlt.org](mailto:viola-zimmerman@tmlt.org).

**DIAMOND WAY BUDDHISM MEDITATION MEETING** 7pm. *Texas Union, UT Campus*, 24th & *Guadalupe*. [www.diamondway.org/austin](http://www.diamondway.org/austin).

**GUIDED-IMAGERY MEDITATION** 7-8pm. *Wellness by Design*, 4701 Westgate Ste. C-301. Donations accepted. [www.wellnessbydesign.us](http://www.wellnessbydesign.us).

**HILL COUNTRY NUDISTS INTRODUCTORY MEETING** 7pm. *Mr. Natural*, 1901 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-5228. [www.hillcountrynudists.com](http://www.hillcountrynudists.com).

**IGNITE YOUR INVENTIVENESS** 7-9pm. *Human Potential Center*, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$95, supplies included.

**ILLUMINATION SPOTLIGHT SERIES ON PSYCHIC ARTS** is a four-part series designed to help you tap into otherwise inaccessible information and knowledge. 6:30-9pm. *NiaSpace*, 3212 S. Congress, 443-3013. \$80. [xephyr@helios-consulting.net](mailto:xephyr@helios-consulting.net), [www.helios-consulting.net/illumination](http://www.helios-consulting.net/illumination).

**ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES** 6-9pm. 3840 *Far West Blvd.*, 345-8941. [eringgenberg@austin.rr.com](mailto:eringgenberg@austin.rr.com), [www.geocities.com/atasteofitalyinaustin/atasteofitalyinaustin](http://www.geocities.com/atasteofitalyinaustin/atasteofitalyinaustin).

**MESSAGE: A FIVE-SESSION INTRODUCTION** Should you decide to enroll in the professional training after taking this community class, \$100 of your tuition will be applied to your first semester. 7-9:30pm. *The Lauterstein-Conway Massage School and Clinic*, 374-9908, 374-9222 x13. \$130 (includes \$50 space-saving deposit).

**NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF TEXAS** Matt Turner discusses the history and ethnobotany of well-known plants of the Texas Hill Country. 7pm. *Wild Basin Wilderness meeting room*, 805 N. Capital of Texas Hwy. Free. [www.npsot.org/Austin](http://www.npsot.org/Austin).

**PAST LIVES, DREAMS AND SOUL TRAVEL** 7-8:30pm. *Austin Eckankar Center*, 223 W. Anderson Ste. B-206, 453-0331. [www.eckankar-texas.org](http://www.eckankar-texas.org).

**THE FUTURE OF LEADERSHIP** with Chris Douglas of Quest Seminars. Presented by the Central Texas Chapter of the World Future Society. RSVP 6pm. *Marie Callender's Restaurant & Bakery*, 9503 Research, 302-1935. \$25, includes meal (\$20, members). [www.centexwfs.org/register.html](http://www.centexwfs.org/register.html).

**TRICHOTILLOMANIA SUPPORT GROUP MEETING** for chronic hair-pullers. 7pm. *Austin Java Co.*. Free. [austintrich@yahoo.com](mailto:austintrich@yahoo.com).

**BIKES ACROSS BORDERS COMMUNITY BIKE SHOP** 6-10pm. *Rhizome Collective*, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free. [bikesacrossborders@riseup.net](http://bikesacrossborders@riseup.net).

**CLAIRVOYANT TRAINING** 7:30-9:30pm. Call for exact location, 560-5193. [intuitiveguide@yahoo.com](mailto:intuitiveguide@yahoo.com), [www.intuitivestudiesaustin.com](http://www.intuitivestudiesaustin.com).

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)  
**Nixon** @ *Alamo Drafthouse South*, 7pm  
**"The Artist Formerly Known as Captain Beefheart"** @ *Alamo Drafthouse Downtown*, 9:45pm  
**Wheel of Time** @ *Alamo Downtown*, 9:45pm

## Wednesday 18

**AUSTIN NEWCOMERS CLUB MEETING** with Cartoonist Ben Sargent. 11am. *Green Pastures*, 811 W. Live Oak, 314-5100. \$20. [www.austinnewcomers.com](http://www.austinnewcomers.com).

**AUSTIN SINGING INSTITUTE VOCAL LIBERATION CLASS** RSVP 7-10pm. *Music Lab*, 1306 W. Oltorf, 554-8771. \$50. [guy@guymonroe.com](mailto:guy@guymonroe.com), [www.austinsinginginstitute.net](http://www.austinsinginginstitute.net).

**AUSTIN WOMEN IN BLACK** encourage all those opposed to war to join them in their weekly vigil. Noon-1pm. *Texas State Capital Building*. [www.austinwomeninblack.org](http://www.austinwomeninblack.org).

**EASTSIDE ARTISANS MARKET** 7pm. *Ventana del Soul*, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. Free.

**FIVE SECRETS TO PERMANENT WEIGHT LOSS** with local acupuncturist Nicole Lentfer. 1-2pm. 1015 *Bee Cave Woods Dr.*, Ste. 102, 329-9610. [www.nhcaustin.com](http://www.nhcaustin.com).

**FREE LEGAL ADVICE** These night clinics from Volunteer Legal Services & Texas RioGrande Legal Aid are open to everyone, offer child care, and are right on the bus line. 6-7pm. *Webb Middle School*, 601 E. St. Johns. Free.

**INTERMEDIATE GERMAN CLASS** 6:30-8pm. *German-Texan Heritage Society*, 507 E. 10th, 482-0927. \$60, 12 weeks (\$50, members).

**INTIMACIES DISCUSSION GROUP** Good Life columnist Karen Kreps and special guest Barbara Davis discuss the balance of dependency and autonomy in romantic relationships. 7-8:30pm. *BookPeople*, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. Free.

**METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB: THE FEDERAL COURTS SYSTEM** with Judge Lee Yeakel. 7-8:30am. *UT Club*, Darrell Royal Memorial Stadium, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman, 479-9460. \$15. [mbcaustin@mbcaustin.org](http://mbcaustin@mbcaustin.org), [www.mbcaustin.org](http://www.mbcaustin.org).

**SOUTH AUSTIN AARP MEETING** 10am. *South Austin Senior Activity Center*, 3911 Manchaca, 280-8661. Free.

**TRADITIONAL MAYAN CLAENDER STUDY** with Carlos Cedillo. 6pm. *Ruta Maya*, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase. [www.cosmicjaguar.com](http://www.cosmicjaguar.com), [www.rutamaya.net](http://www.rutamaya.net).

**THEATRE** (See Arts Listings)  
**The Intergalactic Nemesis** *The Hideout Theater*

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings)  
**Touch the Sound** @ *Alamo Downtown*, 7pm  
**Wheel of Time** @ *Alamo Downtown*, 9:45pm

## Thursday 19

**GATEWAY TO RECOVERY: ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADDICTION AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT** This week: Finding help and hope when someone you love is addicted to alcohol and/or drugs. 7-9pm. *Covenant Presbyterian Church*, 3003 Northland, 454-5231. Free.

**REAL ANSWERS FOR REAL WOMEN** for real questions about real things, like hormone and bone health, thyroid/weight loss, and internal cleansing. 6:30pm. *Norris Conference Centers*, 2525 W. Anderson Lane, Ste. 365 (at Northcross Mall), Whole Foods, 345-5003. Free.

**RETIRED STATE EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING** The association's mission is "to promote, advance and defend the rights and interests of the retired employees of the State of Texas, their dependents, and beneficiaries." All retired state employees are welcome to attend the meeting. 1pm. *Senior Activity Center*, Patio Room, 2874 Shoal Crest, 451-0087. [www.rseaoftx.org](http://www.rseaoftx.org).

**SANTAO GUIDED MEDITATION** Learn from the Taoists how to obtain peace and balance through acceptance. 7:30-9:30pm. *Ventana del Soul*, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. Donations accepted.

**SASSY HAPPY HOUR** 5-7pm. *Vin Bistro*, 1601 W. 38th, 377-5252. [rsvp@sassyconference.com](mailto:rsvp@sassyconference.com), [www.sassyconference.com](http://www.sassyconference.com).

**THIRD THURSDAY ON GUADALUPE** Music, food, and shopping. Main attraction: Kinky Friedman at Tom's Tabooley. *Third Thursday*, 6-10pm. *Guadalupe between 28th & 38th*. [www.austinthirdthursday.com](http://www.austinthirdthursday.com).

**WINE 101** with Wine & Food Foundation president and sommelier Michael Vilim. 6:30-8pm. *Castle Hill Cafe*, 1101 W. Fifth, 327-7555. \$50 (\$40, members). [www.winefoodfoundation.org](http://www.winefoodfoundation.org).

# day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

**Juniper Hills Farm** between Dripping Springs and Blanco takes advantage of the rich culinary culture of the Hill Country to combine a cooking school with overnight cabins for a unique weekend getaway. "The business has just evolved," says Travis "Sibby" Barrett. "The project drove us rather than us driving the project." Her vision for the future has the business, which published its first schedule of classes last spring, offering even more opportunities to mix food and a weekend in the country.

Barrett began her career in Dallas where she owned Dallas Affaires Cake Company and Cafe Georgia. The bakery soon eclipsed the neighborhood restaurant and became Barrett's focus. After more than 19 years, the cake company (2307 Abrams Rd., Dallas) has become known for its designs using fresh flowers, ribbons of white chocolate, edible gold leaves, and miniature fruit.

"I was lucky to find a wonderful staff that can manage the day-to-day activities very well without me," Barrett says. "They're probably better off with me not looking over their shoulders all the time and helping with the long-range planning from a distance."

With family in Austin and San Antonio, the Hill Country was Barrett's first choice for a country home. She purchased the rocky, juniper- and oak-covered land in 1997. Her two-story rock home, which she calls "Hill Country Tuscany-style," wasn't completed until 2002.

Barrett began hosting cooking classes soon after she moved into the house overlooking the Blanco River Valley. Family and friends who attended the informal gatherings in her kitchen needed a place to stay as the wine flowed and the meals lasted into the evening, so Barrett added two cabins with three small apartments to accommodate her guests.

You don't have to participate in a cooking class to stay in one of the rooms, nor do you have to stay overnight if you take one of Barrett's classes, but the combination could make for an exciting culinary experience. The farm's location is an ideal jumping-off point for exploring the Hill Country and beautiful enough to just sit back and enjoy.

The cabins are tastefully decorated and furnished without being cluttered or pretentious. Each room (two are on the ground floor and one is upstairs) has its own sitting room, private porch, and small kitchenette. One of the apartments comes with a fenced yard for pets. "City dogs love it out here," Barrett says.

Barrett's yoga studio is being converted into two adjoining rooms until the new kitchen and pavilion are built. "I've found that a lot of couples like to travel together," she says. "The new cabin will have a com-



Hill Country cabins with class

mon area as well as two bedrooms." All guests have access to a sauna, fire pit, bocce ball court, and wood-fired oven.

From appetizers to cobbler, Barrett has prepared entire meals using the wood-fired pizza oven that looks like a brick toolshed behind her house. "You have to learn a whole other way of cooking using the oven," Barrett says.

The cooking classes are more of a dinner party where everyone helps out in the kitchen. Each class is limited to 10 cooks. The curriculum ranges from beginners classes to expert speciality courses covering everything from stocking a pantry to making soups and tarts. Groups can even develop their own menu of foods they would like to experiment with. "I want everybody to come away with a new basic skill," Barrett says.

In addition to food classes, Barrett is hosting a series of workshops with local growers discussing organic gardening. "This area of the Hill Country is such a food-lover's paradise," she says. "We have fresh vegetable farms, wineries, and even an olive-oil maker."

Juniper Hills Farms is about 40 minutes south of Austin off of U.S. 290. The rooms rent for \$110 per night with a two-night minimum on the weekends. The cooking classes usually happen on Saturdays or Sundays, although a series of international cuisine classes will be held on Thursday evenings in March. Most classes are \$55, with the Farmers Series running \$45 for each workshop. For more information on upcoming classes go to [www.juniperhillsfarm.com](http://www.juniperhillsfarm.com) or call 830/833-0910.

761st in a series. **Day Trips, Vol. 2**, a book of *Day Trips* 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: *Day Trips*, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.

## out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

**TEXAS TALL TALE** exhibits folk art and curiosities from the Lone Star State. *Through Feb. 18*. *Webb Gallery*, 209 W. Franklin, Waxahachie, 972/938-8085. [www.webbgallery.com](http://www.webbgallery.com).

**TRACKS OF THE IRON HORSE** pulls together pieces of railroad history from the train's inception to modern day locomotives and routes. *Through Jan. 28*. *George Bush Presidential Library, College Station*, 979/691-4000. [bushlibrary.tamu.edu](http://bushlibrary.tamu.edu).

**TESTIGOS DE LA HISTORIA** features the works of modern and contemporary Mexican documentary photographers. *Through Feb. 12*. *Wittliff Gallery of Southwestern & Mexican Photography*, Alkek Library, *Texas State University, San Marcos*, 512/245-2313. [www.wg.tx.state.edu](http://www.wg.tx.state.edu).

**RAY PRICE'S 80TH BIRTHDAY CONCERT** gives fans a chance to join special musical guests celebrating with the Country Music Hall of Famer. *Thu., Jan. 12*. *Civic Center*, Lufkin, 936/569-8650.

**LAKE MEREDITH TURNS 40** Explore the Panhandle lake's history from prehistoric artifacts from the Alibates Ruin to water use and natural gas wells. Also see the works of Jim Ward, a painter and sculptor who was once the illustrator for *American Quarter Horse Journal*. *Through Feb. 19*. *Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, Canyon*, 806/651-2244. [www.panhandleplains.org](http://www.panhandleplains.org).

**MUD FESTIVAL** takes advantage of the annual draining and cleaning of the San Antonio River canal along the River Walk as an excuse to have a party. There will be arts & crafts

shows, mud slinging, parades, music, and more. *Thu.-Sun., Jan. 12-15*. *San Antonio*, 210/227-4262. [www.sanantonioriverwalk.com](http://www.sanantonioriverwalk.com).

**CAMEL TREKS** re-create the Sahara and the Bedouin way of life in the West Texas desert on a camel-assisted walking tour of a sandy state park. Reservations required, call for times and fees. *Monahans Sandhills State Park, Monahans*, 432/943-2092. [www.texascamelcorps](http://www.texascamelcorps).

**GILLESPIE COUNTY LIVESTOCK SHOW** features the work of the local FFA and 4-H youth groups exhibiting and selling their projects. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 13-14*. *Fredericksburg*, 830/997-3452.

**BEV DOOLITTLE** will introduce a new exhibit of her Western art and sign autographs. *Sat., Jan. 14, 11am-3pm*. *Museum of Western Art*, 1550 *Bandera Rd.*, Kerrville, 830/896-2553. [www.museumofwesternart.org](http://www.museumofwesternart.org).

**DUTCH OVEN COOKOFF** revives days of the cattle drives when a good camp "cookie" could make a variety of foods in the cast iron pots over a hot coal fire. Cooks will compete in three categories: Breads, entrees, and desserts. After the judging, everyone will sample the goodies at a pot luck dinner. *Sat.-Sun., Jan. 14-15*. *Big Bend Motor Inn, Terlingua*, 432/371-2504.

**BOOK SIGNING** featuring Bob Huffaker, "When the New West Live: Dallas 1963," and Veva Vonler, "The Movie Lover's Tour of Texas." Free hors d'oeuvres and music. *Thu., Jan. 19, 5:30-7pm*. *Gruene Hall, Gruene*, 830/629-5077. [www.gruenehall.com](http://www.gruenehall.com).



**BIKES ACROSS BORDERS COMMUNITY BIKE SHOP** 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free. [bikesacrossborders@riseup.net](mailto:bikesacrossborders@riseup.net).

**BOARD GAME NIGHT AT VENTANA DEL SOUL** 6pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. Free.

**COMMUNITY DINNER** Volunteer prep, 4-6pm; community dinner, 6-7pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. Free. (See Thursday 01/12)

**EMANCIPET FREE THURSDAYS** 8am, check-in begins (first come, first served). Emancipet, 601 E. Airport, 587-SPAY. Free. (See Thursday 01/12)

**INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT VOLUNTEER NIGHT** 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695.

**ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES** 6-9pm. 3840 Far West Blvd., 345-8941. [eringgenberg@austin.rr.com](mailto:eringgenberg@austin.rr.com), [www.geocities.com/atateofitalyinaustin](http://www.geocities.com/atateofitalyinaustin).

**THE STOREHOUSE** 10am-2pm. The Storehouse, 111-A Ramble Ln. #120. Free. [info@the-storehouse.org](mailto:info@the-storehouse.org). (See Thursday 01/12)

**THEATRE** (See Arts Listings)  
**Get Your War On!** The Off Center

## SPECIAL SCREENINGS

(See Film Listings)  
**Left of the Dial** @ Alamo Downtown, 7pm  
**Trapped in the Closet: The R. Kelly Sing-Along** @ Alamo Downtown, 9:45pm

# Ongoing Events

**MOTHERS' MILK BANK NEEDS YOUR HELP** Calling all dairy queens! The Mothers' Milk Bank is seeking donations of surplus milk from healthy breast-feeding women, which they will then pasteurize and dispense to premature and sick babies, primarily those in the hospital. Also, to those lactating or no, it would be greatly appreciated if you volunteered to help pasteurize said milk. *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9am-noon. 494-0800.* [info@mmbaustin.org](mailto:info@mmbaustin.org), [www.mmbaustin.org](http://www.mmbaustin.org).

**COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS** needs volunteers during school hours to be tutors and mentors. Volunteers can choose the age group and school location they prefer. They are also in need of monetary donations at this time. Call or check the Web site for more info. 462-1771. [www.cisaustin.org](http://www.cisaustin.org).

**WONDERS & WORRIES** offers developmentally appropriate support groups and individual counseling for children and youth who have a parent with cancer or other serious illness. Support groups and counseling are also available for children, adolescents, and young adults with cancer, cystic fibrosis, juvenile arthritis, and other chronic illnesses. All services are free of charge and are offered in Spanish and English. *Wonders & Worries, 923-C Westbank, 329-5757. Free. www.wondersandworries.org.*

**FAMILY ELDERCARE** is in need of volunteers to work as bill payers and guardian advocates in order to maintain dignity, independence, and quality of life for the disabled and the elderly. *Family Eldercare, 2210 Hancock Dr., 483-3582. [funger@familyeldercare.org](mailto:funger@familyeldercare.org).*

**COMPASSION OVER KILLING** Vegetarians want meat-eaters to stop eating meat so badly that they'll give 'em presents just to *think* about it. Head to this Web site for your free vegetarian starter guide. Free. [www.tryveg.com](http://www.tryveg.com).

**THE 23RD STREET ARTISTS' MARKET** features original handcrafted work from local artisans. *Daily, 10am-dusk; Third Thursday, 10am-10pm. 23rd & Guadalupe. www.austinartistsmarket.com.*

**FREE CONFIDENTIAL AND ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING** *Mondays & Tuesdays, 8am-7pm; Wednesdays & Fridays, 8am-noon. The CARE Program, 1631-E E. Second, 804-3650. Free.*

**CONTINUING RELIEF EFFORTS FOR GULF COAST EVACUEES** For updated survivor information, resources, and community-action calls, see our Web site. [www.austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/hurricane2.php](http://www.austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/hurricane2.php).

**SEXUAL ASSAULT & ABUSE SERVICES** Hays-Cladwell Women's Center is starting free and confidential daytime and evening support groups for women who have experienced childhood sexual abuse. Ask for Laura Dupont or Kristen Pearson. 512/396-3404. [www.hcwc.org](http://www.hcwc.org).

**HUMAN POTENTIAL CENTER** This South Austin non-profit has a myriad of classes and workshops – from yoga and Reiki to art classes and dream interpretation – just waiting to maximize your potential. Check out the Web site for more info. *Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.*

**MEDICINAL YOGA** Yoga for diabetes, *Thursdays, 11am-12:30pm; for back pain, Fridays, 2:30-4pm; for weight loss and internal peace, Saturdays 4-5:30pm.* Reservation required. 10008 Mount Rainier Dr., 292-8093 or 963-8364. [yogasolutions@gmail.com](mailto:yogasolutions@gmail.com).

**AUSTIN BOAT SHOW** Who knows? It might float yours. *Jan. 12-15. Thu.-Fri., noon-9pm; Sat., 10am-9pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 476-5461. \$8; \$4, seniors & kids (free, kids 6 & younger). www.austinboatshow.com.*

**AUSTIN UNDER 40** Nominate those young(ish)bloods who have made substantial contributions to this town

with both their professional and community services. Nomination deadline: Jan. 25. Free. [www.austinunder40.org](http://www.austinunder40.org).

**THE DREAM CENTER AUSTIN** is struggling to provide groceries and household staples to the nearly 650 people, many of them kids, who attend their Thursday Have a Heart of Compassion Food Pantry. They need those with compassion in their hearts to donate stuff: canned goods, boxed foods, paper products, money, etc., so that they will be able to offer some relief to the families of South Austin. Hop to it. *The Dream Center, 4800 S. First, 448-4500 or 448-4512. www.dreamcenteraustin.org.*

**TEXAS EARLY MUSIC PROJECT** needs some volunteers to help with concert setup and stage management, program folding and assembly, and box office and CD sales. E-mail Jim Garrison if you're interested in lending a hand. [tempvol@hmg.net](mailto:tempvol@hmg.net).

**COATS FOR CUBS** Now through Earth Day, bring your real and faux fur apparel, including fur trims, fur accessories (such as hats, gloves, and muffs), and shearing to any Buffalo Exchange and let the staff know it's a donation for the Humane Society. *Through April 22. Buffalo Exchange, 2904 Guadalupe, 480-9925. Free. www.buffaloexchange.com/locations.php.*

**SAFEPLACE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS** to help prepare evening meals for formerly homeless women who attend, with their children, weekly Life Skills classes to prepare themselves for independent living. 356-1575. [smolinari@austin-safeplace.org](mailto:smolinari@austin-safeplace.org).

**FREE COMPUTER CLASSES** at beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels on a variety of topics including Basic Computer Skills, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Both English and Spanish speakers will be accommodated. To register, call the library. *Ruiz Library, 1600 Grove, 974-7500. Free.*

**INTERNATIONAL TATTOO CONVENTION AND ART SHOW** (See Club Listings) *Fri., Jan. 13-Sun., Jan. 15. Red Lion Hotel, 6121 N. I-35, 323-5466. www.livefasttexas.com/contentsaus.htm.*

# Sports

BY MARK FAGAN

## THE MAIN EVENT

**UT FOOTBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CELEBRATION** Vince Young for governor, president, police chief, etc. The Houston Texans better draft Young with the first pick of the upcoming NFL draft or expect season-ticket holders to burn down Reliant Stadium. Even if it takes Young a year or two to adapt to NFL play, they'll have trouble keeping his jersey in stock and will gain a huge Texas fan base. Longhorn players and coaches from the school-record setting 13-0 squad as well as the UT band, cheerleaders, Bevo, and other spirit groups will be in attendance. *Sun., Jan. 15, gates at 5pm, official celebration at 6:30. Darrell K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium. www.texassports.com.*

## THE HOME TEAMS

**AUSTIN ICE BATS** As of press time the Bats are on a two-game winning streak (after losing five in a row) and appear poised to make a run for playoff contention. Vs. Fort Worth: *Fri., Jan. 13, 7:30pm.* Vs. Rio Grande Valley: *Sat., Jan. 14, 7:30pm.* Travis County Expo Center, 7311 Decker Ln., 977-PUCK. \$10-35. [www.icebats.com](http://www.icebats.com).

**AUSTIN TOROS** As of press time the Toros are resting at the .500 mark (7-7) and look to topple the tied-for-first-place Fort Worth Flyers (10-6). Vs. Fort Worth: *Wed., Jan. 18, 7:30pm. Austin Convention Center, 236-8333. \$8-27. www.nba.com/dleague/austin.*

**TEXAS ROLLERGIRLS WHAMMY AWARDS** The Texas Rollergirls' awards party is back and free to the public after 11pm. Vote online for your favorite rollergirl. I know, it's hard to choose just one. *Sun., Jan. 15, 11pm. Momos, 618 W. Sixth St., above Katz's, 479-8848. Free. www.txrollergirls.com.*

**UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Men's Basketball** Vs. Villanova: *Sat., Jan. 14, noon.* Vs. Texas Tech: *Tue., Jan. 17, 8pm. Frank Erwin Center.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. Missouri: *Sat., Jan. 14, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center.* **Men's Swimming** Vs. Auburn: *Fri., Jan. 13, TBA.* Vs. Georgia: *Sat., Jan. 14, TBA.* Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swimming Center. **Women's Swimming** Vs. Georgia: *Sat., Jan. 14, 11am.* Vs. Texas A&M: *Wed., Jan. 18, 6pm. Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swimming Center. www.texassports.com.*

**CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Women's Basketball** Vs. Texas Lutheran University: *Thu., Jan. 12, 5:30pm.* Vs. Schreiner University: *Sat., Jan. 14, 1pm.* **Men's Basketball** Vs. Texas Lutheran University: *Thu., Jan. 12, 7:30pm.* Vs. Schreiner University: *Sat., Jan. 14, 3pm. 3400 I-35, 486-2000. athletics.concordia.edu/athletics.htm.*

**THE AUSTIN VALKYRIES WOMEN'S RUGBY CLUB** It's never too late to join; all interested women are invited. *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7-9pm, Burnet Middle School, 3000 S. I-35, 841-8289. www.austinvalkyries.com.*

**AUSTIN LONESTARS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB** welcomes new players regardless of age, ethnicity, or experience. *Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:45pm. Burnet Middle School, 3000 S. I-35. www.lonestarsrugby.org.*

## RECREATION & FITNESS

**HOOPZONE** is a nonprofit organization committed to providing the best basketball training experience for Austin's youth. Check out their facility, which consists of 23,000 square feet of gym space, 11 basketball hoops, a strength and conditioning center, two regulation-sized courts, and much more. Improve your fundamental skills and have fun learning the game. *HoopZone, 826 Rutland, 837-5553. www.hoopzone.net.*

**TEAM TEXAS ADULT SWIM TEAM** Swimming training for adults for fitness or preparation for swimming competition, open-water swims, or triathlons. *Mon., Wed., Fri., 7:30am, 8:30am, and noon on Mon., Wed., and Thu. Dell Jewish Community Association of Austin, 327-1280. www.swimtex.com.*

**THUNDER HILL RACEWAY** There are races every Saturday night at this paved oval racetrack in South Austin. *Saturdays, 7pm. 24801 I-35, Kyle, 512/262-1352. www.thunderhillraceway.com.*

**WEEKLY CHESS TOURNAMENT** All are welcome at this weekly tournament. Cash prizes, yo. *Mondays, 7pm, Dobie Mall, second floor food court. \$1 entry fee.*

**CAPOEIRA WITH KABULA** 2-4pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase.

**PILATES AT RUTA MAYA** 9am. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase.

**ACC SPRING GOLF CLASSES** This 18-hour class covers setup fundamentals (grip and stance) for the short game and full swing. No experience necessary in this self-paced class. Evening and Saturday classes forming for January/February 223-7542. [www3.austincec.due/schedule/wcell/cepftr.htm](http://www3.austincec.due/schedule/wcell/cepftr.htm).

**WILD GOOSE QI GONG** combines physical and mental techniques to increase and circulate one's "Qi" (internal energy) by interpreting the movements of geese. *Saturdays, noon-12:30pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$5.*

**AUSTIN FLOORBALL CLUB** Floorball is a fast-paced team sport – a safe version of floor hockey, played indoors on foot using lightweight plastic sticks and a Wiffle ball. A basic floorball stick is provided; all you need to bring is a pair of sneakers. *Tuesdays, 7pm. St. John Community Center, 7500 Blessing Dr. First time free. www.austinfloorball.com.*

**BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU FOR KIDS** Kids 7-13, come participate in a multi-cultural fitness and self-defense experience! Learn the ground-grappling sport honed in Brazil from Japanese Judo roots. *Saturdays, 9:30am. Austin Jiu-Jitsu, 301 Inwood Rd., 423-1010. austinjiujitsu.com.*

**CHAPARRAL ICE** offers free first lessons every Saturday for those ages 6 and older. Also, check out their men's, women's, and youth hockey leagues. *Sat., Jan. 14, 11:30am. Chaparral Ice, 14200 N. I-35, 252-8500; Sat., Jan. 14, 1pm. Northcross Mall, 451-5102. Free.*

**Free Hockey Try-It Class** The sport of hockey has been growing steadily in Texas for years now, and here's your chance to get in on the fun with this free 30-minute class. *Sun., Jan. 15, 4pm. Northcross Mall, 451-5102. Free. www.chaparralice.com.*

## RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

**REI LECTURES & CLINICS Ride Like a Girl** The Austin Ridge Riders and Race Like a Girl mountain bike team host a program of 15 weekly women's mountain bike rides, plus five weekend rides at local mountain bike trails/parks – an opportunity to ride with other women, learn new trails, new skills, build riders' abilities, and much more. *Mondays, 6pm. For more info and directions see www.austinridgeriders.com.*

**THE AUSTIN CYCLING ASSOCIATION** has plenty of bicycling activities to offer this bike-loving city. Check their Web site for details. [www.austincycling.org/rides.html](http://www.austincycling.org/rides.html).

**WILD BASIN WILDERNESS** has a plethora of available walks, hikes, and more. [www.wildbasin.org](http://www.wildbasin.org).

**FRIENDS OF BRIGHT LEAF** will offer an interpretive hike at Bright Leaf Nature Preserve. Bright Leaf is only open to the public through guided hikes. Take 2222 to Creek Mountain Road. The park entrance is on the left-hand side of the road, through the metal gate. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes. *Sat., Jan. 14, 9am. Bright Leaf Nature Preserve, 323-0544.*

Outside of America, Brits and Arabs are about the only people who play football over the holidays. Everyone else has a midwinter hiatus; in Europe it's the season's halfway point, a time to take stock of the first half, and re-evaluate the goals and possibilities for the grueling second half. So what do we see, looking around Europe? Fat-cat defending champs way out front in every top league, and precious few close races anywhere. **Lyon** will win France for the fifth straight year; **Juventus** will take their fourth in five in Italy; **Chelsea** has a stranglehold in England. It's as if we're coming into the All-Star break in the baseball season and the Yankees are 10 games out in front – in all six divisions. One charming exception: the almost comically underachieving **Real Madrid**, still floundering around the middle of the Spanish table.

If you're thinking of going to Germany this summer for the World Cup, your last best chance to buy **World Cup tickets** expires this weekend. FIFA, which controls all WC ticketing, is selling some 250,000 tickets, to all games but the opening match. They'll be distributed via a lottery system; you can request up to four tickets a game, for up to seven games, but the deadline is Sunday, Jan. 15. See [www.fifaworldcup.com](http://www.fifaworldcup.com) for info or to order. – Nick Barbaro

# Soccer WATCH



## When Pigs Fly

Arts on Real, through Jan. 28

Running time: 1 hr, 40 min

Who among us hasn't known a Wicked Witch just like her, a stiff-necked, thin-lipped, narrow-eyed (not to mention narrow-minded), mirthless killjoy whose sole purpose in life seems to be squashing like a loathsome cockroach any sign of youthful creativity or frivolity or simple fun? We've all heard her drone on incessantly about life being a serious business with no place for foolishness and the sooner one learns that the better. We've seen her sneer

at artistic pursuits and belittle any dreams of a life on the stage or in the studio. Maybe for you she was an aunt or a babysitter or a Sunday school teacher. For Howard Crabtree, she was a high school guidance counselor who stomped on his desire for a career in theatre by telling him he'd make it as a performer and costume designer when ... well, you've seen the title of the show. And so Crabtree got his sweet revenge by developing this theatrical revue in which his personal Wicked Witch appears and gets her comeuppance.

As such, it's no surprise that *When Pigs Fly* eventually made its way to Austin, a city full of refugees from little Texas towns (as well as a few big cities) where the hidebound and crabbed of spirit hold sway. This is a place where Crabtree and all the "dream Curlys"



like him can go their own way, "dressed for excess." And it should be no surprise that Arts on Real was the local theatre company to premiere the revue, as director/set designer/costume designer/lighting designer/theatre producing artistic director Blake Yelavich has gone his own way and

founded a theatre that frequently celebrates the extravagant, the frivolous, the fun, and the gay. If there's a surprise to the production, it's that it's, well, so modest. At the risk of sounding like a Wicked Witch, much of the show is built around the extravagant costumes that were Crabtree's specialty and

which turned the original production of this show into an off-Broadway sensation that ran for years. Crabtree appears as a character – embodied here winningly by Kirk Addison – and at a climactic point declares that the problem isn't that he's gone too far, it's that he hasn't gone far enough, leading into a fashion parade of outrageously over-the-top outfits. The costumes created by Yelavich and la Layadi are clever and amusing and ingeniously constructed, but outlandish? Hardly any more than what you might see at Eeyore's or Carnival or on Sixth Street at Halloween. Maybe that's a hazard of staging this show in a city loaded with Lone Star Crabtrees; they've raised the bar on "dressed for excess."

That's not to say that the Austin production isn't entertaining. But it feels more complete in the less elaborate numbers, where it's just a performer interpreting the songs by composer Dick Gallagher and lyricist Mark Waldrop (with some additional lyrics added here by Addison) – say, Bryan Schneider boyishly crooning of his infatuation with the oft-married Liz Taylor; a tortured Doug Labelle torching it up three times over his unrequited loves for, respectively, Dubya, Warren Chisum, and Tom DeLay; and Addison sweetly celebrating an unconventional romance in the Sixties suburbs in "Sam and Me." These numbers, like most of the material, are so featherlight that they'd blow away with a puff of breath, but unencumbered by the expectations of spectacle and lifted by simple, engaging performances and the accompaniment of musical director Steve Saugey, they're when this *When Pigs Fly* really takes wing.

– Robert Faires

## Theatre

### OPENING

**HOUSE AND GARDEN** Alan Ayckbourn didn't just write a pair of clever, intricate British comedies here; no, he also *linked* them, such that the two separate plays are performed simultaneously by one cast in two adjacent venues: As characters exit a scene in *House*, they often walk right into a scene in *Garden*, and vice versa. With the incredible timing et cetera this calls for, who'd dare to stage such a spectacle? Ladies and gentlemen, it's Don Toner and Austin Playhouse. Catch *House* first, then return to see the other part of the story in *Garden*. **House:** Jan. 13-Feb. 19. **Garden:** Jan. 19-Feb. 19. *Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$20-25 (two-show discounts available). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

**SECOND CITY'S JEWISICAL** The celebrated Second City troupe brings its latest musical comedy revue – a collection of scenes and songs that look at Jewish life and culture – to Austin for an exclusive sneak peek. Be there or be *trayf*. *Sat., Jan. 14, 8 & 10pm. Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart, 735-8000. \$15-25. www.jcaaonline.org.*

### SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Jan. 27 issue is Monday, Jan. 16.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy. [brenner@austinchronicle.com](mailto:brenner@austinchronicle.com).

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical. [dance-classical@austinchronicle.com](mailto:dance-classical@austinchronicle.com).

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Benné Rockett, visual arts. [art@austinchronicle.com](mailto:art@austinchronicle.com).

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor. [brenner@austinchronicle.com](mailto:brenner@austinchronicle.com).

**CLARENCE DARROW: THE SEARCH FOR JUSTICE** features Gary L. Anderson as the most hated and celebrated lawyer in American history. In these times of idiots like the members of the Kansas State School Board refusing to acknowledge the Flying Spaghetti Monster as they waggle, in an abusive and pornographic manner, their flaccid theory of Intelligent Design toward the intellectual cherries of young American schoolkids ... well, couldn't we use a man like Darrow now? *Sat. Jan. 14, 2 & 8pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 327-2159. \$20 (\$15, in advance; other discounts available for the early show).*

★ **THE INTERGALACTIC NEMESIS** Here's the first installment of the celebrated tripartite retro-radio play that Salvage Vanguard Theatre is taking to NYC and then around the whole damn country. But, before they go Big Appleward, Lee Eddy, Shannon McCormick, Mike D'Alonzo, and all the crazily talented others will stage this laugh-out-loud sci-fi send-up for the hometown crowd – that's *you*, lucky Austinite – for one night only. Race you to the box office ... and last one there is a \*fnord\* Zygonian spy! *Wed., Jan. 18, 8pm. The Hideout Theater, 617 Congress, 474-7886. \$12-35. www.heroescomedy.com.*

★ **GET YOUR WAR ON!** The Rude Mechanicals did this *last year*, you say? Staged this live rendition of the David Rees comic strips that was so painfully funny that people in the audience were, like, *wetting themselves* and actually screaming with laughter? (Well, except for that one right-wing Republican guy who showed up by accident and had a total stress-induced coronary trombone in the third row, such that his superior vena cava burst through the wall of his chest and began wriggling like a Water Weasel and spattering the Off Center walls (and several audience members) with gushets of vile crimson jelly until an EMS team could subdue the wayward heart-tube and transport its ashen, shivering owner to Seton's Crisis Ward For Extremely Compromised Imperialists.) Yes, well, that popular show was a mere *workshop production*; no, seriously; and now here's the real thing, fully staged by the Rudes under the direction of Shawn Sides, according to the adaptation of Kirk "Very Smart" Lynn. Recommended. *Jan. 19-Feb. 4. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Jan. 19 through Feb. 4. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. \$10-18 (pay what you can, Thursdays). www.rudemechs.com.*

### CLOSING

**WHEN PIGS FLY** Naughty Austin shreds the boundaries of extravagance and camp with this musical comedy revue directed by Blake Yelavich from a script by Dick Gallagher, Howard Crabtree, and Mark Waldrop. Mermaids, show girls, gargoyles, and more. Totally over the

top – any top. *Through Jan. 14. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Arts on Real, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. www.artsonreal.com.*

### ONGOING

**FRONTERAFEST 2006** It's that time of year again, when spunky & funky Hyde Park Theatre becomes vessel to an entire community presenting brilliant or misbegotten or sometimes even simply WTF offerings of theatrical arts, of comedy improv, of slam poetry, of song and dance and multimedia performance in 25-minute increments (during the Short Fringe) and full-length portions (during the Long Fringe) and so on. New to the Austin theatre scene? This monthlong unjuried collection of entertainment will surprise you with its diversity and will likely please more often than disappoint. (And those Best of the Week and Best of the Fest nights? Not to be missed.) Been a few times around the block as regards local thespiana? Then what you need most is an end to this intro and a Schedule of Events – even an SOE that is apt to change at any moment, as the fast-paced world of Frontera presentations intersects with our own domain's less frenetic madness for the next several weeks. We'll be publishing the Long Fringe and Bring Your Own Venue agendas as they fall into our chronological purview. Right now, while suggesting that checking the Hyde Park Web site is a *damned good thing* to do, we tender this brief what's-to-come for the first week. Thus:

**Short Fringe: Tue.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. www.hydeparktheatre.com.**

*Thu., Jan. 12:* "32 Johansons" by **Duncan Coe & Zach Pettichord**. **Lowell Bartholomee's** "Exit 304," directed by Ellie McBride, featuring Lorella Loftus. **Scott Gannon Patton** presents "Evacuate." **Danny Strack**, "Zowie Kapow." **Content Love Knowles**, "Time Alphabet."

*Fri., Jan. 13:* **Robert Delke**, the Bedlam Faction's "Sixty-Seven." **Tight Improv** with David Buckman, MacArthur Antigua, Jennifer Cargill, Rachel Madorsky, Erika May, Bob McNichol, and Erin Plischke. **Wanda Holland**, "Oh My!" **Foolish Mortals Improv Comedy** with Andrea Young. **Jonathan Morgan and Amanda Butterfield** present "I Don't Care: A Poignant Investigation of the Customer Service Industry, You Jackass."

*Sat., Jan. 14:* **Best of the Week.**

*Tue., Jan. 17:* **Joe Hartman's** comic monologue, "The Meditation." "Harry the Homeless Homosexual" by **Alex Garza**. "Stretch," a drama by **Alison Leigh DeFrees**. **Candyece Rusk's** "Little Baby Two Shoes." **Sonnet Blanton and Julia Smith** explore the boundaries of collaboration through music and juggling.





▲ Alan Ayckbourn's cleverly bifurcated British comedy *House and Garden* opens at Austin Playhouse this weekend.

Wed., Jan. 18: **Michael Hankin's** "Abstinence Only," "Euonym" by **Morgan Aldrich**, "Nero the Wolfsheep" by **Gene Cluny**, **Terri Lynn Hudson's** "Not the Children's Hour," a One-Woman Show in Seven Gentle Stabs.

Thu., Jan. 19: "Spic" by **Guillermo De Leon**. "An Impersonal History of the Blues" by **Hank Schwemmer**. **Wooden Nickel** presents long-form Chicago-style improv. **Cris Edwards** performs "Terminals," co-written with Robert Berry. "Imagination Penetrative" by Dolores Judith Diaz, presented by **Loaded Gun Theory**.

Fri., Jan. 20: **Jennifer Salazar's** "Becoming Conocido." **Erika May and Bob McNichol** perform their comedy sketch, "Great Americans," as directed by Dave Buckman. "Oh!rmones, Oh!monas" is a celebration of love and lust from **Liliana Valenzuela, Alejandra Murga, and Rebecca Tassi**. "Scenes from *The Tanqueray Prayer Circle*" by **Malisa Hargrove and Rhonda Kulhanek**. **Matthew Garcia's** "Surviving Your Beast."

Sat., Jan. 21: **Best of the Week**.

Okay, and then there's the **Long Fringe**, more expansive (say about an hour, an hour and a half) works of

theatre umbrella'd under the Fronterafest aegis, and presented by hopeful up-and-comers or crafty and seasoned pros at *The Blue Theatre*, 916 Springdale. Here's what's opening in the coming week:

**Dance Carousel** is an anthology of kinesia from local choreographers, curated by Spank Dance Company's Ellen Bartel, and about which you can read more in this issue's Dance listings. *Tue.*, Jan. 17, 7pm. *Sat.*, Jan. 21, 8:15pm. *Sat.*, Jan. 28, noon. *Sun.*, Jan. 29, 1:45pm. \$8.

**The Most Beautiful Lullaby You've Ever Heard** is, we're sure, more than just the most beautiful lullaby you've ever heard, as it comes to us courtesy of the ever-surprising Greg Romero and his cohorts. *Tue.*, Jan. 17, 8:45pm. *Sun.*, Jan. 22, 2pm. *Fri.*, Jan. 27, 7pm. *Sat.*, Jan. 28, 11:15pm. \$10 (\$5, students).

**Cricket Radio** is another anthology, this one of five-minute radio plays from 10 Austin Script Works members, in which the writers had to incorporate "crickets, a countdown, and the fictional town of Piscacadaquoddywoggin, Maine." (We're especially interested to see what ASW savants **Rebecca Beegle** and **Katherine Catmull** have come up with.) *Wed.*, Jan. 18, 9:25pm. *Sat.*, Jan. 21, 6:30pm. *Sat.*, Jan. 28, 1:45pm. \$10.

Tapestry Dance Company *presents*



# JASS

*- A Syncopated Journey in Jazz*

January 20th & 21st, 8:00pm

The Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, Austin, TX

Call 866-443-8849 for tickets!



This project is supported by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts and funded in part by the City of Austin under the auspices of the Austin Arts Commission.



**GEORGE WINSTON**

FEB 1

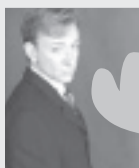
~~FEB 1 & 2~~ SOLD OUT



**RICKY SKAGGS**

& KENTUCKY THUNDER

FEB 10



Valentine's Day!

**BOBBY CALDWELL**

FEB 14

JUMPIN' JIVE: AUSTIN JAZZ WORKSHOP	JAN 21
COWBOY JUNKIES	FEB 16 & 17
MAYNARD FERGUSON & HIS BIG BOP NOUVEAU BAND	FEB 24
R. CARLOS NAKAI & NAWANG KHECHOG	MARCH 3
THE DOOBIE BROTHERS BENEFIT CONCERT	MARCH 4
JUDY COLLINS	MARCH 17
SPYRO GYRA	MARCH 24
THE GYPSY TRAIL: RAJAMANI	MARCH 25
BUGLISI/FOREMAN DANCE	APRIL 2
NRITYAGRAM DANCE ENSEMBLE	APRIL 30

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This project is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and is a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.

# FronteraFest

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For Reservations Call 479-PLAY

FronteraFest 2006 is presented by Hyde Park Theatre in collaboration with Austin Script Works

HPT Hyde Park Theatre

austin script works

[www.hydeparktheatre.org](http://www.hydeparktheatre.org)

This project is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and is a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.

Many thanks to this year's FronteraFest sponsors:





# Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk

Bass Concert Hall, through Jan. 15  
Running time: 3 hrs



The bored bride, stifled inside a loveless marriage and starving sexually, finds her inner fires stoked by a strapping young stranger who shows up in the small town where she lives. They fall into one another's lustful arms and, driven by inflamed desires, violently dispatch her feckless spouse, only to have their escape into a new life together thwarted by the discovery of their crime.

To Americans steeped in the shadowy sagas of Dashiell Hammett and James M. Cain, this may seem familiar turf, another SoCal noir. But here, the setting is much closer to St. Petersburg than the City of Angels – it's *The Proletariat Always Rings Twice*. Katerina Lvovna Ismailova is the wife of a Russian merchant, and her murderous affair earns her and her workman lover a long march to Siberia. Still, their story, from Nikolai Leskov's 1865 novella, shares the violent passions and fatalism of later American crime novels and films. And as adapted to the operatic stage in 1932 by Dmitri Shostakovich and co-librettist Alexander Preis, it's compulsively watchable in the way of a film noir; we're drawn, like moths by a flame, to its overheated desires, especially as magnified in Shostakovich's turbulent, sensual score full of anxious, sawing strings and orgiastic brass, and we can't turn away from dark deed after dark deed they inspire.



Austin Lyric Opera brings this black, torrid tale to blazing life. From the pit, Artistic Director Richard Buckley – whose ardor for Shostakovich prompted the yearlong citywide celebration of the composer's work which this production launches – leads the orchestra in a vigorous reading of the score, pumping it full of the heat and tension and churning emotion that drive its characters. Central among these and at the dark heart of this production is Brenda Harris as Katerina, the title character. From the moment she raises herself from her spinning bed and announces her boredom, the soprano projects the character's deep frustration with her life, a frustration that grows into a seething resentment as she deals with her abusive father-in-law, Boris. With his period suit, shaven skull, and perpetual talk of money, Tom Fox's Boris calls to mind a Slavic counterpart to Daddy Warbucks. But he's less paternalistic than patronizing, a scowling, surly overlord who views everyone and everything with a glowering disdain. Thundering insults in his deep baritone, Fox makes him a real threat, and as Harris watches him, her eyes take on the nervous, darting quality of a trapped animal. When she first feels the virile embrace of Sergei – Brandon Jovanovich's roguish lover is cocksure, in more ways than one – Harris' body sinuously registers the heat, and her face gives the impression that she senses a way out. Of course, there is none, but as it all goes horribly awry, Harris reveals the full range of Katerina's feelings, from tender longing to smoldering desire to steely determination to icy recognition that all of it has been for naught. After her final humiliation at the hands of a faithless Sergei and his heartless new paramour (Elizabeth Cass, effortlessly cruel), Katerina rises slowly to face her final fate, and in the cool moonlight beautifully provided by Nancarrow it feels as if the flame of her soul has flickered out.

Stage director Ken Cazan and designer David Nancarrow have sought to ground the production visually in the opera's homeland, outfitting the chorus, which is employed to move set pieces about and even on occasion to serve as furniture, in the uniforms of Soviet workers, and using three screens above the three-story industrial towers that ring in a central raked platform for periodic projections of Russian art. Unfortunately, the small size of the screens and their placement high above the stage, combined with a choice of images that at times appeared to bear little relationship to the action or the music, make their use more distracting than illuminating, and the absence of any reference to the Soviet era in the work itself makes the constant presence of all these proletariats ultimately intrusive. What matters here are the characters themselves, these hard, driven characters, and their sordid spiral into a starless night of the soul. And as long as it's focused on them and the music that speaks of their deepest, darkest selves, ALO's *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* fascinates with the white-hot intensity of a flame in the dark.

– Robert Faires

**Irene is a Cactus** comes to us from Rocky Hopson's RoHo Productions. It's the story, written by the many-talented Hopson, about a handicapped woman's struggle with independence. *Wed., Jan. 18, 7pm. Sat., Jan. 21, 4:15pm. Thu., Jan. 26, 7pm. Sun., Jan. 29, 5:45pm. \$10.*

**You're No One's Nothing Special** and **Port Arthur**. Here's a pairing of two short and off-beat comedies, the former by Ann Marie Healy and the latter by Kenneth Wayne Webster, both directed by that cunning Webster for the once and future Subterranean Theatre Company. *Thu., Jan. 19, 7pm. Thu., Jan. 26, 9:15pm. Sat., Jan. 28, 5:45pm. Sun., Jan. 29, 9:45pm. \$10.*

**Among the Sand and Smog** is a gritty drama by J. Jimenez-Smith, directed by Jamie Keener for Sonav Productions, based on the true story of the more than 300 women raped and murdered in Juarez since the early 1990s. *Thu., Jan. 19, 8:30pm. Sat., Jan. 21, 10pm. Wed., Jan. 25, 7pm. Sat., Jan. 28, 3:30pm. \$8.*

**SHEAR MADNESS** The longest-running comedy in Zachary Scott Theatre's history is back, under the direction of Alice Wilson and Dave Steakley. Paul Portner's script provides murder among the curlers in this funny whodunit where you play armchair detective, uncover the secrets, and help an outrageous cast of characters solve the crime amidst a trendy Austin hair salon. Now with Robert Newell! *Held over through Jan. 29. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$28-38. www.zachscott.com.*

## AUDITIONS

**KITTY KITTY BANG BANG** These bodacious babes of burlesque are looking for a few good men and women for their Whim-Wham Wednesday shows. Needed: comedians, magicians, musicians, jugglers, hypnotists, and anything else that might fit under the category of Strange and Unusual Talent! Be prepared to show 2-5 minutes of your act during auditions. Check their Web site for details. *Wed., Jan. 18, 8-10pm. Step by Step Studio, 529 W. Olton. 470-1735. www.texaskitties.com.*

These people are tight. They're also Tight: one of several talented troupes shaking the rafters of improv comedy at the Hideout. But these guys in particular? They're the sexiest.

## Comedy

### IN THE CLUBS

**CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB** 8120 Research Blvd. #100, 467-2333. [www.capcitycomedy.com](http://www.capcitycomedy.com).

**Open Mic Comedy** Sit back and relax with a cold one while you watch seasoned pros and up-and-comers knocking themselves out humor-wise for your benefit (and to benefit the Austin Children's Shelter). *Sundays, 8pm. \$2 (free, college students).*

**John Evans** brings the funny to the Cap City stage as only he can – and he's one of the hardest working men in the biz. Aided and abetted this time 'round by Todd Justice and Kerri Lendo. *Jan. 12-14. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$4.50-12.*

**Paul F. Tompkins** brings a history of performance and writing for *Mr. Show*, among other swell gigs, to his five-night run at Cap City, where he'll unleash a torrent of new material never before seen east of Wilshire Boulevard. Yes, and Austin's own Chris Fairbanks and Doug Mellard open for this guy. *Jan. 17-21. Tue.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$4.50-12.*

**ESTHER'S POOL** 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. [www.esthersfollies.com](http://www.esthersfollies.com).

**Esther's Follies** wreaks some havoc on seasonal tribulations with their usual fast-paced brilliance, featuring a preview of the upcoming Governor's race, the South Austin Chamber of Commerce, Shannon Sedwick channelling Patsy Cline, an almost X-rated Dr. Seuss, and so hilariously on, with much comedy-riddled song and dance and that spectacular magician Ray Anderson. *Reservations highly recommended. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military.) Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.*

**THE HIDEOUT THEATER** 617 Congress, 443-3688. [www.heroescomedy.com](http://www.heroescomedy.com).

**SATURDAY: MAINSTAGE SHOW** The **Heroes of Comedy**, who brought us "Start Trekkin'," "Giants of Improv," and the wildly successful "Lyrix," present original forms and classic songs in one to two month runs. *8pm.*

**MAESTRO** is the most audience-participatory show in the improv lineup. Performers play games and scenes scored by the audience, periodically eliminating low-scoring players until one performer emerges victorious and is crowned the Maestro. *10pm. LATE NIGHT HULLABALOO & IMPROV LAB* The audience takes the stage with experienced improvisers, trying out a series

of games and gambits, lead by the wily veterans themselves. The Hullabaloo is scheduled the second, third, fourth, and fifth Saturday of each month, starting roughly 10 minutes after Maestro closes. (And it's free to anyone who has just seen the Maestro.) *The first Saturday? An experimental showcase. 11:30pm.*

**AUSTIN IMPROV: EVERYTHING FROM NOTHING** The Hideout's the epicenter of all the best improv in Austin, and it's shifting into overdrive for 2006, presenting more shows, more styles, more wicked tasty off-the-cuff japey than you can find anywhere in Texas (or, for that matter, the Greater Southwest and Southeast Regions). Keep your eyes peeled to this section of the listings for what's, as they say, *happening* at Improv HQ. For instance:

**THURSDAY: Wild Card Showcase** Audiences are treated to 90 minutes of one troupe's performance of their signature work, whether improv, sketch or stand-up. *8pm.*

**FRIDAY: IMPROV THREEFER** Resident and guest improv troupes each perform a 22-minute set, providing audiences a fresh variety of improv teams and approaches each week. *8pm.*

**AUSTIN STYLE** Unlike in the Threefer, audiences are treated to two teams performing one specific style or form. *This is where the improv hothouse happens. 10pm. THE CAGEMATCH* Two teams battle for improv supremacy by putting up their best work for the audience in 22 minutes. At the conclusion of the show, the audience decides the winner, who will return the following Friday night to defend their title. *Lordy, it's almos' like wrasslin'! 11:30pm.*

**VELVEETA ROOM** 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116.

**The Chicken and Pickle Guys** Yes, *them*. Lee Trull and Joey Oglesby, the darlings of the 2005 Dallas Comedy Festival, invade Austin like a particularly tenacious and funnymaking strain of H5N1. You, and opener Matt Bearden, will never breathe the same way again. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 13-14, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.*

**Spite Club** Who's the snarkiest of them all? You're gonna find out as Chuck Watkins and Daniel Jackson take on Lucas Molandes and Chris Keimling in three rounds of battle: trivia, insults, and freestyle. *Thu., Jan. 12, 9:30pm. \$5.*

**Open Mic Night, God Help Us All** You think you have what it takes to knock 'em dead, comedywise, in three minutes? Some of your fellow citizens think so, and they (and you?) will be up there on the Cheese Palace boards, giving it their best shot. *Thursdays, 10pm. \$5.*





# Dance

## SPANK DANCE COMPANY: DANCE CAROUSEL

As part of the Frontera Long Fringe, we look forward to the third annual Dance Carousel: 10 choreographers provide 40 one-minute dances, and the results boggle the mind, heart, and funybone. This year's creative crew: Andrea Ariel, Ellen Bartel, Megan Knotz, Dawnerin Larrimore, Chrissy Leach, Tracy Sadler Machalek, Ashley Parker Overton, Mandie Pitre, Randi Turkin, Jennifer Tietz, and Christine Wong. This is a brilliant way to get a look at modern dance, as well as enjoy the imaginations of Austin's able choreographers; reservations strongly suggested. *Through Jan. 29. Tue., Jan. 17, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 21, 8:15pm; Sat., Jan. 28, noon; Sun., Jan. 29, 1:45pm. The Blue Theater, 916 Springdale, 479-7529. \$8. [www.spankdance.com](http://www.spankdance.com).*

## TWO LEFT FEET

**AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS** Latin, swing, and other dance music in a nonsmoking, alcohol-free venue. No partner required, all ages welcome. *Saturdays, 8pm. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek. \$6 (\$4, members, students). **ABD classes** Five-week sessions, beginners to advanced dancers. *Tuesday & Thursday nights. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st. Prices vary. [www.austinballroomdancers.org](http://www.austinballroomdancers.org).**

**PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE & CULTURAL CENTER: CLASSES & AUDITIONS** PRFD offers classes in Puerto Rican dance, music, and culture. Additionally, it's time to audition for the group's dance apprentice and musicians programs. Phone to schedule an audition time. 251-8122. [www.prfdance.org](http://www.prfdance.org).

**MORE ON THE FLOOR** Phone the danceline to find what other opportunities can set your body in motion: presentations, workshops, master classes, and more. 416-5700 x3262. Or check out the Movin' Easy calendar online. [www.movieeasy.com](http://www.movieeasy.com).

**DANCE INTERNATIONAL** Open to current, former, and new students (DI, UT, and other), these ballroom and Latin sessions are a great way to practice with your feet. Parties: *Sundays, 6-8pm. Practices: Tuesdays 8-9pm. 8611 Green Valley Dr., 232-2623. [www.dancein.org](http://www.dancein.org).*

**AUSTIN SCANDINAVIAN DANCING** Traditional Swedish and Norwegian dances. Beginners welcome, no partners needed. New classes start every month. *Thursdays, 7:30-9:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0598 or 453-9633. \$3.*

**AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS** Learn dances from around the world for couples, singles, and everybody at once. Beginners welcome; no partner needed. Frequent live music. *Saturdays, 7:30pm (lessons) followed by an open dance. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. \$5. [www.yastreb.com/tifd/aifd.html](http://www.yastreb.com/tifd/aifd.html).*

**AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: CONTRA DANCE** You don't need a partner, and every dance will be taught before you stride out on your own. With live music. *Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-4225. \$3. [www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm).*

**AUSTIN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS** Come alone or with a partner; beginners always welcome (kilts optional). *Thursdays, 7-9pm. Quicksilver Dance Studio, 8711 Burnet. First session free. [www.austinscd.org](http://www.austinscd.org).*

**SQUARE DANCE LESSONS FOR BEGINNERS** *Thursdays, 7:30-9:30pm. South Austin Senior Activity Center, 3911 Manchaca, 264-2642. \$45 (\$22.50, youth).*

**AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE** A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. A beginners' lesson starts the evening. *Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. \$4 (\$2, members). [www.austinswingsyndicate.org](http://www.austinswingsyndicate.org).*

James McMurtry, live and with Strings Attached, this Saturday

# Classical Music

## NOTES & ENCORES

**AUSTIN SINGERS: AUDITIONS** The Austin Singers announce auditions for experienced choral singers to join the chorus in preparation for its May 12 concert featuring Brahms' *German Requiem* and *Liebeslieder Waltzes*. All voice parts are open, but sopranos and altos are especially sought. Singers are asked to bring a short prepared solo (accompanist provided, bring two copies of music) and will also vocalize and sight read. *Mon., Jan. 16, by appointment. 996-8584.*

## OPENING

**STRINGS ATTACHED WITH JAMES MCMURTRY** Among the strongest songwriters of his generation, McMurtry populates his songs, ranging from atmospheric ballads to no-holds-barred rockers, with world-weary souls on the hunt for something different. Traveling with around half a dozen guitars, expect McMurtry to offer up a diverse canvas of tones and tunings, backed, as always, by the scintillating strings of Will Taylor and company. *Sat. Jan. 14, 7:30 & 10pm. St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 E. Seventh, 477-9837. \$15-35 (\$8, seniors, students; \$5, age 11 and younger). [www.stringsattached.org](http://www.stringsattached.org).*

**TEXAS EARLY MUSIC PROJECT: LAURIE YOUNG STEVENS & FRIENDS** Award-winning violinist Laurie Young Stevens leads this Baroque chamber music extravaganza, aided by special guests Phoebe Carrai, cello, and Paul Leenhouts, recorder, and others. Works by Bach, Ferrari, Biber, Handel, Pachelbel, and others are on this exceptional bill. Two performances, two venues. *Sat., Jan. 14, 8pm. First English Lutheran Church, Whitis & 30th. Sun., Jan. 15, 4pm. Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 550 Hwy. 290 E, Dripping Springs. \$15 (\$12, seniors, students). [www.early-music.org](http://www.early-music.org).*

**AUSTIN YOUNG ARTISTS GALA CONCERT** This fourth biennial concert showcases exceptionally talented young musicians from area schools, who perform all manner of work, solo and ensemble, from all over the classical music canon. Performers range from age 9 to 17, and you'll hear plenty of piano, violin, plus a smattering of brass, guitar, and more. See the next generation of classical musicians in this family friendly concert. *Sun., Jan. 15, 4pm. Jessen Auditorium, UT Campus, 345-3399. \$7 (\$4, students). [www.austinyoungartists.com](http://www.austinyoungartists.com).*

## CLOSING

**AUSTIN LYRIC OPERA: LADY MACBETH OF MTSENSK** ALO dares to stray beyond the familiar once more in its largest production ever, this time a three-handed collaboration by ALO Maestro Richard Buckley, stage director Ken Cazan, and lighting designer David Nancarrow, with the assistance of ALO's stellar vocal and orchestral talent. The story is replete with sex, opportunism, and deceit; it was banned by Stalin; and ALO revives this in a heralded "new production." The opera is by Shostakovich, who described the work as a tragedy-satire, hmmm ... Sung in English with English supertitles. Not suitable for children. *Through Jan. 15. Sat., Jan. 7, 7:30pm; Mon., Jan. 9, 7:30pm; Fri., Jan. 13, 7:30pm; Sun., Jan. 15, 3pm. Bass Concert Hall, UT Campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 472-5992. \$15-109. [www.austinlyricopera.org](http://www.austinlyricopera.org).*



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# Liz Ward: Aqueous

Women & Their Work, through Feb. 11

Take a wintertime dip into these rippling watercolors and silverpoint drawings by artist Liz Ward. Her art is based on either plant-cell structures drawn in a delicate, concise, and rhythmically soothing way or on underground rivers, rendered in more ravishing watercolors. Ward began with the silver-point drawings 13 years ago, then added watercolors 10 years ago. She latched onto a topographical image in a newspaper and began painting aquifers. About half the aquifer pieces are based on real maps, though eventually she began to let the warping of the large papers influence the composition of her works. This is coolness. She is able to listen to the paper, take direction from the materials themselves. In the richly layered and quietly provocative show at Women & Their Work,

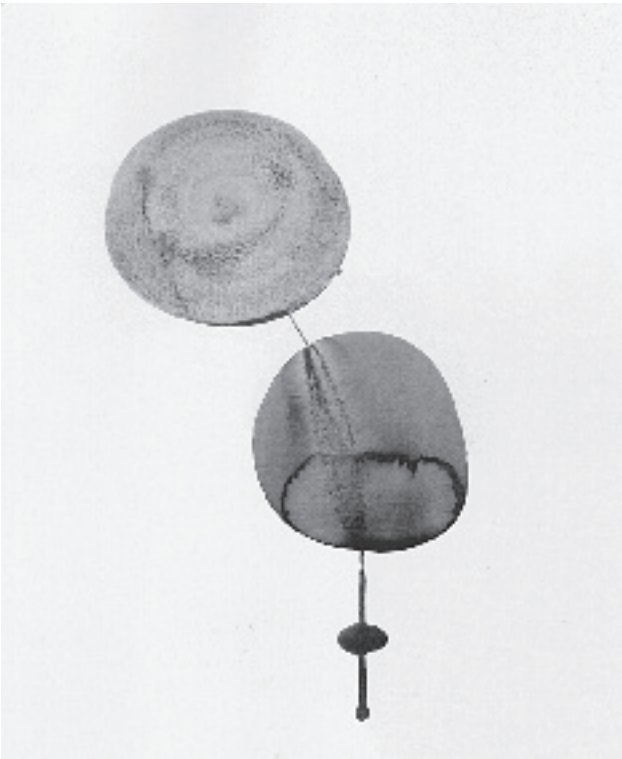
*Minor Aquifers (Deep Blue)* demonstrates her mapping technique coming together with the linear qualities of her silverpoint petri dishes. It is the most recently completed work in this vividly consistent progression of works.

Ward's edge quality is a fine thing to see. Working from light to dark, she lets each shape dry on the cold-pressed, rough-cotton paper. She constructs gorgeous little color moments where one shade creeps up to another. Primarily she paints two sets of color rings: a light one, then a deep ultramarine blue or violet or an iron-oxide-heavy tone like the Lunar Earth pigment from Daniel Smith. She picks out several topographical spots for the darker "aquifers." The subtle color and value changes give the compositions an interesting light balance and a type of dialogue between two tones. To appreciate its strengths, it must be seen in person. The roiling texture of the bowing and stretching paper, combined with the gentle coaxing of the dark values out of aqueous forms, is the focus of the piece.



Cellular Seasons (above) and Flow Mix

One nice thing about the show at Women & Their Work is that the smaller works serve as instructional bits for the more significant pieces. With the diminutive yet charming *Flow Mix*, the artist's intention is a technical mastery over two differently weighted pigments. Chemists could tell us why blue pigments always seem to absorb more evenly and quickly into paper (and why they generally fade faster also). Browns/anything-with-iron-in-it are coarser in grain and chunkier. Ward makes a blue circle and a brown one, then waits



until a certain moment in dryness at which point she drags a little river down between the two. The brown drifts and perfectly settles on top of the cool blue tone. This loses the precious edge effect but highlights the mysterious separations that occur in solution. Timing is the key here, and Ward nails it. This large grouping of works is a quiet storm and shows off her patience and tenacity. Inspired and semimagical, this is great artwork.

– Rachel Koper

## Visual Arts

### EVENTS

**OSWALD GALLERY** presents Texas Women Photographers Showcase, a grouping of eight up-and-coming Texas photographers: Judith Birdsong, Melissa Ciano, Betsy Haas, Glynda Hatfield, Sybil Miller, Debra Rueb, Amanda Stahl, and Shelley Wood. Talk: Sat., Jan. 14, noon-2pm. Reception: Sat., Jan. 14, 6-10pm. Exhibition: Jan. 14-Feb. 28. 714 Congress #200, 494-9440.

### OPENING

**IRON GATE STUDIOS** present "On Others," an exhibition of sculpture and multimedia works by Greg Pond, Jack Dingo Ryan, Melody Owen, Patrick DeGuira, and Steven Thompson – five artists from five states, exploring the outer reaches of their genres. Exhibition: Jan. 13-28. Reception: Fri., Jan. 13, 7-10pm. 2205 E. Fifth, 495-9994. [www.irongatestudios.org](http://www.irongatestudios.org).

**LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY** announces their first solo exhibition of works by Los Angeles-based artist Francesca Gabbiani. "Wonderland" will showcase Gabbiani's large-scale, extraordinarily intricate cut-paper collages. Exhibition: Jan. 14-Feb. 25. Reception: Sat., Jan. 14, 6-8pm with artist's talk at 6:30pm. 300 West Ave. #1318, 215-4965. [www.lorareynolds.com](http://www.lorareynolds.com).

**ART PALACE** presents "The Greatest Secrets," a video installation by Austin-based Australian artist Ebony Porter. Drawing water, light projection, and conceptual sound into the gallery, Porter creates an environment that places the viewer between visual, aural, and celestial hemispheres. Exhibition: Jan. 14-Jan. 28. Reception: Sat., Jan. 14, 8-11pm. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687. [www.artpalacegallery.com](http://www.artpalacegallery.com).

### CLOSING

**MANUEL'S MICRO GALLERY** presents "Brenda Ladd: Musical Legends," art-brushed photo paintings. Works include the likes of Dr. John, Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown, and Marcia Ball. Through Jan. 17. 310 Congress, 472-7555. [www.manuels.com](http://www.manuels.com).

**AMOA: DR. SEUSS & TOM LEA** "Remember When Storytelling Mattered?" The Austin Museum of Art does, and they're commemorating that, you might say, with this double exhibit featuring the works of Ted Geisel (better known as, yes, Dr. Seuss) and Tom Lea (perhaps best known for his *Life* magazine illustrations of World War II). Hell of a treat for the eyes here, and a welcome kick in the narrative soul. Through Jan. 15. 823 Congress, 495-9224. [www.amoa.org](http://www.amoa.org).

**REFLECT TIME** is a video installation by Sally Weber. This inaugural piece of First Night Austin's New Year's Eve Celebration of the Arts will be installed in the windows of the Scarbrough Building and shown daily from dusk to midnight. Through Jan. 15. 101 W. Sixth, 477-7884.

**CREATIVE RESEARCH LABORATORY: HEYDAYS** is a multifaceted series of events and participation opps presented by students at UT's Department of Art and Art History for the Austin public. Definitely check their Web site! Through Jan. 14. 2832 E. MLK, 322-2099. [www.uts.cc.utexas.edu/~crlab](http://www.uts.cc.utexas.edu/~crlab).

**GALLERY SHOAL CREEK** presents new monotypes and abstractions by longtime gallery artists Priscilla Hoback and Tony Saladino. Through Jan. 14. 1500 W. 34th, 454-6671.

### ONGOING

**EYE CONTACT ART** showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and sometimes (in rotation) others. 12400 Amherst #102. 825-8577. [www.eyecontaktart.com](http://www.eyecontaktart.com).

**ART ON 5TH** presents the Art of Janis Joplin for the first time in Austin. "Birthday Bash" with Laura Joplin is upcoming to celebrate this show. Through Jan. 31. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. [www.arton5th.com](http://www.arton5th.com).

**ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY** is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. 78 San Marcos, 457-0171.

**AUSTIN ART GLASS** This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. 1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. [www.austinartglass.com](http://www.austinartglass.com).

**BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS** Unique handmade glass art and jewelry made by the staff and friends of the studio. 5241 N. Lamar, 380-0770. [www.austinbluemoon.com](http://www.austinbluemoon.com).

**BLUE SKIES FRAME COMPANY** "Landscapes of Death Valley" showcases the photography of Gordon MacGregor in the Let's Get Small Gallery. 4408 Medical Pkwy., 302-4779.

**CORONADO STUDIOS** The Serie Project, a non-profit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. 6601 Felix Ave., 385-3591. [www.serieproject.org](http://www.serieproject.org).

**CULTURAS DE ARTE** is a new gallery featuring Mexican folk art (statues, paintings, home decor, masks, and more) as well as unique works by proprietor Julian Orozco. 3311 N. I-35 Ste. C, 473-2302. [www.artcultures.com](http://www.artcultures.com).

**D BERMAN GALLERY** presents "Billow & Fold," a series of new paintings by Austin artist Sydney Yeager, whose vividly hued paintings continue to evolve and delight. Through Jan. 21. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. [www.dbermangallery.com](http://www.dbermangallery.com).

**DIAZ GALLERY** presents fresh work by Ebbessen Davis, Rick Van Dyke, Aaron Speyer, Nicole Filz, Stephanie Freedman, Blake Yantis and Christopher Fitzgerald. Through Jan. 31. 3507 S. First, 444-0013.

**DIBONA STUDIO** Here's a studio/gallery devoted exclusively to the work of Joyce DiBona, including her newest oil paintings and a recently completed sculptural tattoo series. 404 W. Milton, 851-2646.

**F8 FINE ART GALLERY** presents "New Year: New Faces," featuring works by Richard Griffin, David Harouni, Ethan Diehl, and Kyla Shakelford, all featuring fresh takes on the human figure. Reception: Sat., Jan. 14, 6-9pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 11. 1137 W. Sixth, 480-0242. [www.f8fineart.com](http://www.f8fineart.com).

**FIRE ISLAND HOT GLASS STUDIO** Specializes in functional and decorative works in glass for home and garden. Glassblowing demos: Saturdays, 9am-noon. 3401 E. Fourth, 389-1100. [www.fireislandglass.com](http://www.fireislandglass.com).

**FLUX GALLERY** presents "The Best of 2005," 35mm photography by Rey Shaun Maldolara. Through Jan. 13. 2401 E. Sixth, Bldg. 2, 320-0753. [www.austinfluxstudio.com](http://www.austinfluxstudio.com).

**FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY** presents the photographic work of Kim Francois. 309-B Bowie, 320-0072.

**GALLERY SOCO** carries original art in various media, currently featuring works by Sylvia Angeli, Cheryl Tamborello, Jeff Scott, Lisa Fittipaldi, and others. 1714-A S. Congress, 442-5144.

**KATHY WOMACK GALLERY** features works by native Texan Kathy Womack. 411 Brazos #100. [www.kwomack.com](http://www.kwomack.com).

**LAS AMERICAS FINE ARTS GALLERY** presents new paintings and sculptures by artists (including Bob Coffee, Rick Calzadilla, Drew Randall, Tim Donovan, Ofelia Michil, and Augusto Brocca) from the Austin area, Mexico, and Peru. 1103 E. Sixth, 971-3643.

**MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART** has an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork and craft items on display. 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. [www.mitchie.com](http://www.mitchie.com).

**BOLM STUDIOS GALLERY** presents "ZN Collective," an installation by D. Atherton and C. Clay. Synthesis of new meaning, altering defined spacial relations, and computer controlled kinetic light machines mark this event as highly stimulating. Through Jan. 21. 5305 Bolm #10, 385-1670.

**NORTH HILLS GALLERY** presents works by David Kroft, head of the Art Department at Concordia University. Through Jan. 30. 7050 Village Center Dr., 345-1743.

**PHOTOGECKO STUDIOS** presents an array of film/digital artist John Campbell's black-and-white photographs. Monthly First Thursday events debut new images along with live music. 1413 S. First, 797-9375. [www.photogecko.com](http://www.photogecko.com).

**PRO-JEX GALLERY** Now in its new post-fire location, this friendly and locally owned business offers original fine art photography and picture framing. 1710 S. Lamar Ste. C, 472-7707.

**SLUGFEST GALLERY** presents recent work by Slugfest Members. Get some beautiful art by Slugfest members including Allison Aydelotte, Margie Crisp, Tom Druecker, Margaret Simpson, Jill Thrasher, and Eric Zimmerman. Exhibition: Through Jan. 31. 1906 Miriam, 477-7204.

**URBAN ROOTS GALLERY** presents "Confession" by E. Moises Diaz, exploring everyday emotions through abstracted acrylics on paper. 1202-A W. Sixth.

**WOMEN & THEIR WORK** presents "Aqueous," a series of silverpoint drawings and watercolor paintings by Liz Ward. Through Feb. 11. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. [www.womenandtheirwork.org](http://www.womenandtheirwork.org).







# film listings

## The World

AFS@Dobie

*D: Jia Zhangke; with Zhao Tao, Chen Taishen, Jing Jue, Jiang Zhongwei, Huang Yiqun, Alla Chtcherbakova.* (NR, 139 min., subtitled)

“Being stuck here all day will turn me into a ghost,” laments Tao (Zhao Tao), a dancer in a dreary amusement-park revue, to boyfriend Taisheng (Chen Taishen), who sullenly guards the park (and refills the water dispenser) in an armbanded military-style uniform. Dating despite the seeming absence of passion, the two work together in a suburban expanse of Beijing, its grounds dotted with slack-jawed tourists goggling at smaller-scale replicas of the world’s cities. There’s a London Bridge, an Eiffel Tower, the Mongolian steppes, a Manhattan with the World Trade Center left proudly intact – as if it trounces the real thing. And since its visitors will likely never travel abroad from the People’s Republic, there’s a passenger jet with costumed flight attendants. But the false, forced brightness of the park (“See the world without ever leaving Beijing!”) is always wearing through – a broken zipper, a fight backstage, dancers imported from Russia with their passports confiscated. Tao and Taisheng weave through the film’s lyrical story, grazing the city’s criminal underbelly while they drift together and apart as lovers, and director Jia (2002’s *Unknown Pleasures*) lets each event reverberate. One of the so-called Sixth Generation’s sleekest visualists – consider that animation and gaming giant Bandai contributes beautiful animated sequences for expressionistic effect – Jia is, like so many of his contemporaries, obsessed with the effects of modernism, globalism, and international commerce

upon the culture and society of China, so this is no mere eye candy. The hopes of its young people, who’ve come from remote provinces (“I swore I’d become somebody,” Taisheng proclaims) are ironically reflected in the beauty shots of World Park’s monorail (a cheerful voice informs passengers that its circuit takes 15 minutes) and their counterpoint – in every interior shot, backstage and in every squalid apartment, people are packed together like cordwood. But what is perhaps most remarkable about Jia’s film are its tragic optimism and emotional simplicity. While World Park sells tourists the simulacra of excitement, enrichment, and happiness, Jia’s characters are able to find those things themselves, in small doses – through a sincere friendship forged between people who don’t even speak the same language, through small moments of connection in an otherwise alienating world. It’s a magnificent film – thoughtful but not distant, aesthetically and technically sophisticated but staged with restraint and delicacy. Several key scenes are



conducted almost in silence between two characters. When Tao and a Russian dancer (Chtcherbakova) share a pedicab ride through the park’s grounds, briefly escaping the tedium of park life by indulging in its pleasures, Jia’s camera skitters along beside them, and though the two women don’t interact, their shared sense of fleeting joy is palpable. *The World* is a fine choice to start off the weekly AFS@Dobie series, which brings festival films from around the world for twice-nightly weeklong runs (for more info see p.45 of this week’s Screens section), but it deserves a much wider audience.

– Marrit Ingman

★★★★ Dobie

## New Reviews

### GLORY ROAD

*D: James Gartner; with Josh Lucas, Derek Luke, Emily Deschanel, Jon Voight, Austin Nichols, Mehdad Brooks, Alphonso McAuley, Damaine Radcliff, Al Shearer, Sam Jones III, Schin A.S. Kerr, Kip Weeks, Red West, Tatyana Ali.* (PG, 106 min.)

Granted, college basketball’s regular season is in full swing now, but *Glory Road* might have been better served by a March release date, when hoops fans are especially hungry for Cinderella stories and Disney-sanitized homilies. Cut from the same cloth as *Remember the Titans* and boasting the same producer (Jerry Bruckheimer), distributor (Touchstone), and a co-writer (Gregory Allen Howard), the frequently rousing *Glory Road* presents a fictionalized account of what many count as the most significant NCAA basketball game ever played, between Don Haskins’ underdog Texas Western (now UTEP) and Adolph Rupp’s perennial powerhouse Kentucky in the 1966 championship title game. The significance – beyond being a corker of a game – came down to Haskins’ then-revolutionary call to start five black players on the paint. After a zippy opening montage of historical footage that sets up the racial tensions of the time (and kicks off the film’s terrific, era-specific soundtrack), *Glory Road* hits the road as new coach Haskins (Lucas) scours the country for recruits. White players won’t come to the unranked, cash-poor

Texas Western, and so Haskins turns to black players, most of whom are relegated to schoolyard courts or benchwarming in favor of white ballers. *Glory Road* releases the “thumping motivational speech” floodgates early, when Haskins convinces superstar guard Bobby Joe Hill (Luke) to join up, and it’s but the first of many speeches to come. You can’t argue with the message of the movie, but you can take issue with its formulaic approach. The players, portrayed by a host of charismatic, mostly unknown actors, are largely reduced to quirks (the ladies’ man, the Black Power guy, etc.); a one-note Lucas, who reportedly gained 35 pounds for the part, stalks through every scene, belly-first and bellowing all the way; and the script hangs on such ready-made metaphors as the newly diagnosed teammate whose heart is literally too large. (Insert Lucas growling, but growling *motivationally*: “We’re gonna need you. We’re gonna need your courage.”) And for those of us who thrill every year come March Madness, the Big Dance here will be an awful disappointment: Texas Western’s tournament trajectory is reduced to two games – its nail-biting double overtime against Kansas and the final Kentucky match (in which Texas Western squared off against future NBA coach Pat Riley, among others). *Glory Road* really isn’t a bad show – it’s just an obvious one – and one wishes material of this historical import had received a more refined rendering. – Kimberley Jones ★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

### GRANDMA’S BOY

*D: Nicholas Goossen; with Allen Covert, Nick Swardson, Peter Dante, Linda Cardellini, Shirley Jones, Shirley Knight, Doris Roberts, Kevin Nealon, Rob Schneider.* (R, 96 min.)

It’s gross, it’s cheesy, and it’s baked beyond all reasonable limits, but this everything-and-the-kitchen-sink comic soufflé still manages to be goofily entertaining beyond all expectations. This THC-and-Xbox-inflected tale of a 36-year-old video-game tester (Covert) who moves in with his grandmother (Roberts, of *Everybody Loves Raymond*) and her two elderly roommates (*The Partridge Family*’s Jones and *Desperate Housewives*’ Knight) after being evicted from his apartment borders on being so bad that it’s good, but somehow holds the course through sheer wingnut wackiness. Produced under the banner of Adam Sandler’s Happy Madison Productions, this mines much the same territory as early Sandler hits like *Billy Madison*, so much so that you end up wishing the former *Waterboy*/*Wedding Singer*/*Enlarged Paterfamilias* had the starring role. Leading yukster Covert is no Sandler – he’s barely a Rob Schneider, come to think of it – but then these days neither is Sandler. The comedy in *Grandma’s Boy* (and there are far more belly laughs than you might anticipate) pokes occasionally smart, knowing fun at gamers, stoners, and the developmentally arrested horn dog (and horndogette) in all of us, and comes almost entirely from the genius comic timing and inspired silliness of co-writer and co-star Swardson. His gleefully satiri-

cal portrait of a sub-Peter Pan-Syndromed video-game brinksman is one of the most surrealistically funny characters since Clint Howard ran the restroom in *Rock ‘n’ Roll High School*. Frankly, I can think of no higher praise. The rest of the film, involving a barrage of hit-or-miss gags running the gamut from “old gals mistaking pot for tea and getting stoned” (hit) to “oddball African Bushman showing up with lion” (miss) and self-obsessed *Matrix* wannabe doing the robot (hit, then many, many misses), is trashy, niche-marketed fun. Stupid, yes, but fun nonetheless.

– Marc Savlov

★★ CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North

### HOODWINKED

*D: Cory Edwards, Todd Edwards, Tony Leech; with the voices of Anne Hathaway, Glenn Close, Jim Belushi, Patrick Warburton, Anthony Anderson, David Ogden Stiers, Xzibit, Chazz Palminteri, Andy Dick, Ken Marino, Benjy Gaither.* (PG, 80 min.)

This animated update of the Little Red Riding Hood tale is designed to appeal to children and adults alike. And it will, although probably not in the numbers hoped for by the Weinstein Company execs who will be paying attention to the reception of their new company’s first animated release. The film’s hook is that it’s a “fractured fairy tale” that tells the story from several perspectives, *Rashomon* style. A goody bandit is loose in the woods, and the film begins as an investigation gets under way to discover precisely what occurred when Red (voiced by Hathaway) came to visit her grandma (Close) but found the Wolf (Warburton) in



Granny's bed as the old woman tumbles out of the closet and the Woodsman (Belushi) comes suddenly crashing through the window. The investigation is led by the amphibious detective Nicky Flippers (Stiers), along with the ursine police chief (Xzibit) and an avian cop (Anderson). Each character relates their version of events and it turns out that, upon full disclosure, each has something to hide. The film's voice talent is good, as are the characterizations. However, the film's computer animation leaves much to be desired. Instead of the fluid gold standard of the Pixar animated look, *Hoodwink's* animation looks jerky in comparison – almost as if the characters were claymation figurines moving by stop-motion techniques. Red Riding Hood and the cartoon animals all are drawn with big googly eyes that emphasize their cuteness quotient. Thankfully brief song interludes break up the action. Co-writers and directors Leech and the Edward brothers are newcomers to filmmaking, and seem to have taken on other tasks as well as these primary chores. This is also the first release from the new Kanbar Animation Studios. (The most popular release by the studio's owner Maurice Kanbar is his invention of "hangover free" Skyy Vodka.) For the time being, *Hoodwinked* will fill that family-friendly niche desired by filmgoers, but it's not likely to have the undying appeal of a film like *Shrek* or *Toy Story*.

– Marjorie Baumgarten

★★ CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

## HOSTEL

*D: Eli Roth; with Jay Hernandez, Derek Richardson, Eythor Gudjonsson, Barbara Nedeljakova, Jana Kaderabkova, Jan Vlasák, Jennifer Lim.* (R, 95 min.)

*Hostel* has the dubious honor of being the most anticipated horror film of the year – so far – and that's rarely a good thing for a filmmaker, film, or audience. Expectations for Roth's sophomore nightmare (he directed 2002's *Cabin Fever*) were running redline even before he premiered a work-in-progress print at Austin's Fantastic Fest this fall. Since the word of mouth has been downright suppurating with gorehound glee: Finally, a horror film that tells it like it is! Well, not exactly. *Hostel* is actually two films in one. There's the quasi-*Eurotrip* first half, with its ugly Americans rampaging through the EU's flesh markets and drug bazaars in search of debauched bliss (a sort of *Libertines on Leave*), and then there's the relentlessly bad vibes of what happens to our boorish antiheroes when they finally get their hands on "the good stuff." And to top it all off, I get the sneaking suspicion that Roth's film, for all its grim sadism and dogdily sensual Eastern European porn-lite, is a comedy, albeit a blacker-than-black one, aimed squarely at the hearts and loins (if not minds) of Modern America – if we build it, you will cum. It's the sort of film that's likely to cause a furor on Fox News while both sating horror fans and leaving the rest of the populace wondering either how to get a ticket to Slovakia or how to bomb it into oblivion. (Either way, Bratislavans are unlikely to add Roth or co-executive producer Quentin Tarantino to their Christmas card lists.) American pals Paxton (Hernandez) and Josh

## Openings

*Glory Road* (PG)

*Hoodwinked* (PG)

*Last Holiday* (PG-13)

*Loggerheads* (NR)

*Tristan & Isolde* (PG-13)

*The World* (NR)

## Ratings

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★ Poor, without any saving graces

🔥 La bomba

(Richardson) are backpacking through Europe with their newfound Icelandic friend Oli (Gudjonsson), getting baked on Amsterdam greenery, and generally behaving in ways ill-advised in this post-9/11 world. Toward journey's end, they meet up with a shady, young pimp type who promises he can get them laid far more, ah, *copiously* in the former Soviet bloc country of Slovakia. "Because of the war, there's no men," he tells them, leaving the presumably obvious question of what war he might be referencing to evaporate in midconversation. Of course, they take the bait and end up in what at first appears to be *National Lampoon's* version of heaven – featuring the rarely clothed Nedeljakova and Kaderabkova – before discovering, too late for the most part, that it is indeed a very lonely planet after all and that in Slovakia, no one can hear you scream – least of all the American Consulate. *Hostel* certainly delivers in the gore department, and Roth, who knows and loves his favorite genre at least as well as the gang over at the Alamo Drafthouse, peppers the proceedings with various witty in-jokes, including a sex scene set to the grinding beat of "Willow's Song" from the cult classic *The Wicker Man* and a brief but canny cameo by Japan's transgressive cinematic godhead Takashi Miike. Still, there's a feeling of not quite hitting the mark here. A series of last-act coincidences – including a sudden, nasty moment of automotive retribution – leaves you wanting for more. More what? I'm still not certain. But I'm quite sure I won't be Eurailing to check out the hotties of the former USSR without first packing a Mouser in my trousers. As girls go, they're just way too wild.

– Marc Savlov

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

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 Sun. - Thu. 12:25 2:35 4:45 7:15 9:25  
 ★ **HOSTEL** (R) Fri. & Sat. 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:35 9:45 11:55  
 Sun. - Thu. 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:35 9:45  
 ★ **BLOODRAYNE** (R) Fri. - Thu. 12:05  
 ★ **THE RINGER** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 5:00 9:55 12:05  
 Sun. - Thu. 5:00 9:55  
 ★ **THE FAMILY STONE** (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. 2:45 7:25  
 ★ **TRISTAN & ISOLDE** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 1:40 4:20 7:00 9:40 12:10  
 Sun. - Thu. 1:40 4:20 7:00 9:40  
 ★ **CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE** (PG)  
 ★ **\*PRESENTED IN DLP DIGITAL\*** Fri. - Thu. 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00  
 ★ **GLORY ROAD** (PG) ★ **\*PRESENTED IN DLP DIGITAL\*** Fri. & Sat. 12:00  
 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00 12:30  
 Sun. - Thu. 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00  
 ★ **KING KONG** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 12:15 4:00 7:40 11:05  
 Sun. - Thu. 12:15 4:00 7:40  
 ★ **FUN WITH DICK & JANE** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 12:10 2:10 4:10 7:10 9:10 11:30  
 Sun. - Thu. 12:10 2:10 4:10 7:10 9:10  
 ★ **LAST HOLIDAY** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:50 12:15  
 Sun. - Thu. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:50  
 ★ **SYRIANA** (R) Fri. - Thu. 4:35 10:10  
 ★ **HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE** (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. 1:35 7:05  
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# Showtimes

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 13 - THURSDAY, JANUARY 19

**ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE DOWNTOWN** 409-B Colorado, 476-1320. Seating begins one half-hour before showtime. Admission is 18 and up. AFS events are all ages.

**\*The Artist Formerly Known as Captain Beefheart\***: Tue, 7:00pm

**Foleyvision: Darn a (The Filipino Wonder Woman)**: Fri, 7:00, 9:45

**Music Mondays: James Brown Live at the Boston Garden 1968**: Mon, 9:45pm

**3rd Coast Activists: Left of the Dial**: Thu (1/19), 7:00pm

**Herzog Series: Nosferatu: The Vampire**: Sun, 4:00pm

**Weird Wednesday: Pigs**: Wed, 12mid

**Super Mecha Happy Fun Monkey Bash (Vol. 3)**: Mon, 7:00pm

**Texas Doc Tour: Touch the Sound**: Wed, 7:00pm

**Trapped in the Closet: The R. Kelly Sing-Along**: Thu (1/19), 9:45pm

**Veronica Mars Panel and Sneak Peek Event**: Sat-Sun, 7:00pm

**Herzog Series: Wheel of Time**: Tue-Wed, 9:45pm

**ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE LAKE CREEK** 13729 Research, 219-8135.

**\*The Family Stone**: Fri-Wed, 1:40, 4:15, 7:30, 10:10; Thu (1/19), 1:40, 4:15, 10:10

**Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**: 11:25am, 3:10pm

**Memoirs of a Geisha**: 11:45am, 3:20, 7:05, 10:30pm

**\*Munich**: 11:20am, 3:05, 7:00, 10:35pm

**The Producers**: 12:30, 3:45, 7:10, 10:20

**\*The Ringer**: Fri-Sun, 1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:25, 11:35; Mon, 11:30am, 1:45, 4:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 11:30am, 1:45, 4:10, 7:25, 10:05pm

**\*Rumor Has It ....**: 1:20, 3:55, 7:35, 10:00

**Syriana**: 7:15, 10:25

**ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE SOUTH** 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320.

**The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**: Fri-Sun, 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:55; Mon, 3:30, 6:45, 9:55; Tue, 12:30, 3:30, 9:55; Wed-Thu (1/19), 3:30, 6:45, 9:55

**Fun With Dick and Jane**: Fri-Sun, 12:15, 2:30, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50; Mon, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50; Tue, 12:15, 2:30, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50; Wed-Thu (1/19), 4:50, 7:30, 9:50

**\*Hostel**: Fri-Sun, 1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:25, 11:35; Mon, 4:15, 7:00, 9:25, 11:35; Tue, 1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:25, 11:35; Wed-Thu (1/19), 4:15, 7:00, 9:25, 11:35

**King Kong**: Fri-Sun, 12:00, 4:00, 7:55; Mon, 4:00, 7:55; Tue, 12:00, 4:00, 7:55; Wed-Thu (1/19), 4:00, 7:55

**\*Munich**: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 3:00, 7:05, 10:30pm; Mon, 3:00, 7:05, 10:30; Tue, 11:15am, 3:00, 7:05, 10:30pm; Wed-Thu (1/19), 3:00, 7:05, 10:30

**AFS: Nixon**: Tue, 7:00pm

**Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic**: Fri-Sat, 12mid

**Walk the Line**: Fri-Sun, 12:45, 3:45, 7:15, 10:15; Mon, 3:45, 7:15, 10:15; Tue, 12:45, 3:45, 7:15, 10:15; Wed-Thu (1/19), 3:45, 7:15, 10:15

**ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE VILLAGE** 2700 W. Anderson, 476-1320. Tuesday matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old. AFS events are all ages.

**The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**: Fri-Sun, 12:25, 3:45, 7:05, 10:10; Mon, 3:45, 7:05, 10:10; Tue, 12:25, 3:45, 7:05, 10:10; Wed-Thu (1/19), 3:45, 7:05, 10:10

**Glory Road**: Fri-Sun, 1:15, 4:05, 7:10, 10:00; Mon, 4:05, 7:10, 10:00; Tue, 1:15, 4:05, 7:10, 10:00; Wed-Thu (1/19), 4:05, 7:10, 10:00

**Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**: Fri-Sun, 12:05pm; Tue, 12:05pm

**King Kong**: Fri-Sun, 12:00, 4:00, 8:00; Mon, 4:00, 8:00; Tue, 12:00, 4:00, 8:00; Wed-Thu (1/19), 4:00, 8:00

**The Rocky Horror Picture Show**: Sat, 12mid

**Stunt Rock**: Fri-Sat, 12mid

**Videoke**: Fri, 12mid

**Walk the Line**: 3:40, 7:00, 9:55

**ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS** 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesdays.

**Brokeback Mountain**: 11:30am, 1:00, 2:20, 4:00, 5:20, 7:00, 8:15, 10:00pm

**Capote**: Fri-Tue, 11:55am, 2:40, 5:15, 8:00pm; Wed, 11:55am, 2:40, 5:15; Thu (1/19), 11:55am, 2:40, 5:15, 8:00pm

**Casanova**: 11:50am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00pm

**Memoirs of a Geisha**: 12:00, 3:15, 6:30, 9:30

**AFS: The New World Advance Screening**: Wed, 6:00pm

**Nine Lives**: 11:40am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:45, 10:10pm

**Pride & Prejudice**: 12:15, 3:45, 7:10, 9:50

**The Producers**: 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:40

**BARTON CREEK CINEMA (CINEMARK)** Highway 360 and Walsh Tarlton, 306-1688. Discounts daily before 6pm.

**\*BloodRayne**: 9:40pm

**Brokeback Mountain**: Fri, 3:30, 6:40, 9:50; Sat-Mon, 12:30, 3:30, 6:40, 9:50; Tue-Thu (1/19), 3:30, 6:40, 9:50

**Casanova**: Fri, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05; Sat-Mon, 11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05

**\*Grandma's Boy**: Fri, 2:00, 4:25, 7:00, 9:30; Sat-Mon, 11:35am, 2:00, 4:25, 7:00, 9:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 2:00, 4:25, 7:00, 9:30

**\*Hoodwinked**: Fri, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15; Sat-Mon, 11:25am, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 2:05, 4:40, 7:15

**King Kong**: Fri, 3:35, 4:30, 7:50, 9:25; Sat-Mon, 11:30am, 12:30, 3:35, 4:30, 7:50, 9:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 3:35, 4:30, 7:50, 9:25

**Memoirs of a Geisha**: Fri, 2:45, 6:45, 9:55; Sat-Mon, 11:20am, 2:45, 6:45, 9:55pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 2:45, 6:45, 9:55

**Munich**: Fri, 2:40, 6:15, 9:45; Sat-Mon, 11:10am, 2:40, 6:15, 9:45pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 2:40, 6:15, 9:45

**Pride & Prejudice**: Fri, 3:00, 6:30, 9:25; Sat-Mon, 12:05, 3:00, 6:30, 9:25; Tue-Thu (1/19), 3:00, 6:30, 9:25

**BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC)** Barton Creek Square mall (MoPac and Highway 360), 306-9190. Matinee discounts before 6pm.

**Cheaper by the Dozen 2**: Fri-Mon, 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:30; Tue-Thu (1/19), 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:30

**Chicken Little**: Fri-Mon, 1:00, 3:05; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:40, 3:30

**The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**: Fri-Sun, 1:30, 3:00, 4:35, 6:15, 7:35, 9:15; Mon, 1:15, 3:00, 4:15, 6:15, 7:05, 9:15; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:35, 3:00, 4:20, 6:15, 7:10, 9:15

**The Family Stone**: 2:25, 5:00, 7:40, 9:55

**Fun With Dick and Jane**: Fri-Sun, 1:35, 3:35, 5:40, 7:45, 9:50; Mon-Thu (1/19), 1:35, 3:35, 5:40, 8:05

**Glory Road**: Fri-Sun, 1:45, 2:45, 4:15, 5:15, 7:00, 8:00, 9:35, 10:30; Mon, 1:45, 2:45, 4:30, 5:30, 8:15, 9:35; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:45, 2:45, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:15, 9:35

**Good Night, and Good Luck**: Fri-Sun, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/19), 9:55pm

**Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**: Fri-Mon, 5:05, 8:30; Tue-Thu (1/19), 5:20, 8:30

**Hostel**: Fri-Sun, 1:35, 3:40, 5:50, 8:15, 10:25; Mon, 2:15, 4:55, 7:25, 9:40; Tue-Thu (1/19), 2:15, 4:55, 7:30, 9:40

**Last Holiday**: Fri-Sun, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:45; Mon-Thu (1/19), 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:40

**The Producers**: Fri-Sun, 1:10, 4:05, 7:05, 10:00; Mon, 1:10, 4:05, 7:00, 9:45; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45

**Rumor Has It ....**: Fri-Sun, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:55, 10:20; Mon-Thu (1/19), 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20

**Syriana**: Fri-Sun, 1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15; Mon-Thu (1/19), 2:05, 5:10, 8:00

**Tristan & Isolde**: Fri-Sun, 1:15, 4:20, 7:10, 10:10; Mon, 1:30, 4:10, 7:05, 9:50; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:30, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50

**DOBIE THEATRE LANDMARK** 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.

**Capote**: Fri, 7:10pm; Sat-Mon, 1:10, 7:10; Tue-Thu (1/19), 7:10pm

**Good Night, and Good Luck**: Fri-Mon, 4:10, 9:40; Tue-Thu (1/19), 9:40pm

**Loggerheads**: Fri, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00; Sat-Mon, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00; Tue-Thu (1/19), 7:20, 10:00

**The Squid and the Whale**: Fri, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30; Sat-Mon, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30; Tue-Thu (1/19), 7:30, 9:30

**AFS@Dobie: The World**: Fri, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Mon, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50; Tue-Thu (1/19), 7:00, 9:50

**GALAXY HIGHLAND 100** North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305.

**BloodRayne**: 12:05pm

**Cheaper by the Dozen 2**: Fri-Sat, 12:25, 2:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:25, 11:35; Sun-Thu (1/19), 12:25, 2:35, 4:45, 7:15, 9:25

**\*The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (in DLP digital)**: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

**The Family Stone**: 2:45, 7:25

**Fun With Dick and Jane**: Fri-Sat, 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:10, 11:30; Sun-Thu (1/19), 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:10

**Glory Road (in DLP digital)**: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00, 12:30am; Sun-Thu (1/19), 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

**Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**: 1:35, 7:05

**\*Hostel**: Fri-Sat, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:35, 9:45, 11:55; Sun-Thu (1/19), 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:35, 9:45

**\*King Kong**: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 4:00, 7:40, 11:05; Sun-Thu (1/19), 12:15, 4:00, 7:40

**\*Last Holiday**: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:50, 12:15am; Sun-Thu (1/19), 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:50

**The Ringer**: Fri-Sat, 5:00, 9:55, 12:05am; Sun-Thu (1/19), 5:00, 9:55

**Syriana**: 4:35, 10:10

**Tristan & Isolde**: Fri-Sat, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40, 12:10am; Sun-Thu (1/19), 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

**GATEWAY THEATRE** 9700 Stonelake Blvd., between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808.

**Cheaper by the Dozen 2**: 12:10, 2:45, 5:20, 7:50

**The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**: 12:45, 3:50, 7:00, 10:15

**The Family Stone**: 12:05, 2:40, 5:15, 8:00, 10:40

**Fun With Dick and Jane**: Fri-Mon, 11:55am, 2:20, 4:55, 7:20, 9:55pm; Tue, 11:55am, 4:55, 7:20pm; Wed, 2:20, 4:55, 9:55; Thu (1/19), 11:55am, 4:55, 7:20pm

**Fun With Dick and Jane (open captioned)**: Tue, 2:20, 9:55; Wed, 11:55am, 7:20pm; Thu (1/19), 2:20, 9:55

**Glory Road**: 12:40, 4:00, 7:35, 10:30

**Glory Road (in DLP digital)**: 12:00, 3:00, 7:05, 10:00

**Grandma's Boy**: 10:35pm

**Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**: 11:35am, 3:10pm

**Hoodwinked**: 12:30, 2:50, 5:05, 7:30, 9:50

**Hostel**: 11:50am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20pm

**King Kong**: 12:35, 4:40, 9:30

**Last Holiday**: 11:45am, 2:30, 5:10, 8:05, 10:45pm

**Munich**: Fri, 3:05, 6:40, 10:10; Sat, 11:30am, 6:40, 10:10pm; Sun, 3:05, 6:40; Mon, 3:05, 10:10; Tue-Thu (1/19), 11:30am, 3:05, 6:40, 10:10pm

**Munich (open captioned)**: Fri, 11:30am; Sat, 3:05pm; Sun, 11:30am, 10:10pm; Mon, 11:30am, 6:40pm

**The Ringer**: 7:10, 9:35

**Rumor Has It ....**: 12:15, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:25

**Syriana**: 12:20, 3:30, 6:55, 10:20

**Tristan & Isolde**: 12:25, 3:20, 6:45, 9:45

**Walk the Line**: 11:40am, 3:15, 6:30, 9:40pm

**IMAX THEATRE** Texas State History Museum (1800 N. Congress), 936-IMAX.

**Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3-D**: Fri, 10:00am, 2:00, 6:00pm; Sun, 2:00, 6:00; Mon-Thu (1/19), 10:00am, 2:00, 6:00pm

**The Polar Express: An IMAX 3-D Experience**: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 3:00, 7:00, 9:00pm; Sun, 3:00, 7:00, 9:00; Mon-Thu (1/19), 11:00am, 3:00, 7:00pm

**Texas: The Big Picture**: 1:00, 5:00

**LAKELINE STARPORT** Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620, 335-4793. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday.

**Casanova**: 12:20, 3:10, 6:50, 9:40

**Cheaper by the Dozen 2**: 12:05, 2:30, 4:50, 7:40, 10:25

**The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**: 12:40, 4:00, 7:00, 10:05

**Fun With Dick and Jane**: 12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:45, 10:20

**Glory Road**: 12:50, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

**Hoodwinked**: 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50

**Hostel**: 12:15, 3:00, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15

**King Kong**: 12:00, 4:10, 8:00

**Last Holiday**: 1:00, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

**METROPOLITAN** South I-35 at Stassney, 447-0101.

**Casanova**: 12:45, 4:45, 7:30, 10:20

**Chicken Little**: Fri-Sat, 12:10, 2:25, 4:50, 7:05; Sun-Thu (1/19), 12:10, 2:25, 4:50, 7:05, 9:40

**Grandma's Boy**: 11:45am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:40, 10:45pm

**Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**: 11:50am, 12:30, 3:25, 4:15, 7:00, 8:10, 10:30pm

**King Kong**: 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:10, 8:00, 9:30, 10:10

**Memoirs of a Geisha**: 11:55am, 12:35, 3:15, 4:30, 6:40, 8:15, 10:00pm

**Munich**: 2:20, 6:15, 9:50

**The Ringer**: 12:15, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25

**Walk the Line**: 12:20, 3:30, 7:15, 10:40

**Wolf Creek**: 12:05, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:45

**MILLENNIUM THEATRE** 1156 Hargrave, 472-6932. Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.

**Saw II**: Fri-Sat, 6:00, 8:30; Wed-Thu (1/19), 3:15, 5:15

**Zathura**: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 1:00, 4:15pm; Wed-Thu (1/19), 10:30am, 1:00pm

**PARAMOUNT THEATRE** 713 Congress, 472-5470.

**The Princess Bride**: Fri, 7:00pm; Sun, 3:00pm

**ROUND ROCK 8** 2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.

**Cheaper by the Dozen 2**: Fri, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50pm; Mon, 10:00am, 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 2:40, 5:00, 7:30

**The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**: Fri, 1:00, 4:05, 7:10, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 9:50am, 1:00, 4:05, 7:10, 10:15pm; Mon, 9:50am, 1:00, 4:05, 7:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:00, 4:05, 7:10

**Fun With Dick and Jane**: Fri, 1:40, 4:50, 7:15, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 1:40, 4:50, 7:15, 9:30pm; Mon, 11:20am, 1:40, 4:50, 7:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:40, 4:50, 7:15

**\*Glory Road**: Fri, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40pm; Mon, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:15, 7pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:30, 4:15, 7:00

**\*Grandma's Boy**: Fri-Sun, 10:00pm

**\*Hostel**: Fri, 2:30, 5:10, 8:00, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:30, 5:10, 8:00, 10:30pm; Mon, 11:30am, 2:30, 5:10, 8:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 2:30, 5:10, 8:00

**King Kong**: Fri, 2:15, 6:30, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 10:20am, 2:15, 6:30, 10:20pm; Mon, 10:20am, 2:15, 6:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 2:15, 6:30

**\*Last Holiday**: Fri, 2:00, 4:40, 7:35, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:35, 10:10pm; Mon, 11:10am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:35pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 2:00, 4:40, 7:35

**Rumor Has It ....**: Fri, 1:20, 4:30, 7:40; Sat-Mon, 11:00am, 1:20, 4:30, 7:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:20, 4:30, 7:40

**TINSELTOWN NORTH** North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville), 512/989-8540.

**BloodRayne**: 9:40pm

**Brokeback Mountain**: Fri, 12:50, 4:00, 7:10, 10:20; Sat, 9:40am, 12:50, 4:00, 7:10, 10:20pm; Sun-Mon, 9:30am, 12:40, 3:50, 7:00, 10:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 12:50, 4:00, 7:10, 10:20

**Casanova**: Fri, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20; Sat-Mon, 10:50am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20

**The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**: Fri, 12:20, 12:50, 3:40, 4:10, 6:55, 7:25, 10:15; Sat-Mon, 9:00am, 9:30, 12:20, 12:50, 3:40, 4:10, 6:55, 7:25, 10:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 12:20, 12:50, 3:40, 4:10, 6:55, 7:25, 10:15

**The Family Stone**: 2:10, 7:35

**Fun With Dick and Jane**: Fri, 12:00, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55, 10:30; Sat-Mon, 9:15am, 12:00, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55, 10:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 12:00, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55, 10:30

**\*Glory Road**: Fri, 1:15, 1:45, 4:15, 4:45, 7:15, 7:45, 10:15, 10:45; Sat-Mon, 10:15am, 10:45, 1:15, 1:45, 4:15, 4:45, 7:15, 7:45, 10:15, 10:45pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:15, 1:45, 4:15, 4:45, 7:15, 7:45, 10:15, 10:45

**\*Grandma's Boy**: 11:40am, 4:50, 10:10pm

**Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**: Fri, 12:40, 4:25; Sat-Mon, 9:05am, 12:40, 4:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 12:40, 4:25

**\*Hoodwinked**: Fri, 11:50am, 12:20, 4:50, 7:20pm; Sat-Mon, 9:20am, 11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20pm

**\*Hostel**: Fri, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40; Sat-Mon, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

**King Kong**: Fri, 1:00, 5:00, 8:00, 9:00; Sat-Mon, 9:05am, 1:00, 5:00, 8:00, 9:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:00, 5:00, 8:00, 9:00

**\*Last Holiday**: Fri, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20; Sat-Mon, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20

**Memoirs of a Geisha**: 12:10, 3:35, 7:10, 10:25

**Munich**: 11:40am, 3:25, 7:05, 10:35pm

**The Producers**: Fri, 12:35, 3:55, 7:10, 10:30; Sat-Mon, 9:25am, 12:35, 3:55, 7:10, 10:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 12:35, 3:55, 7:10, 10:30

**The Ringer**: Fri, 11:45am, 2:10, 4:35, 7:35, 10:05pm; Sat-Mon, 9:10am, 11:45, 2:10, 4:35, 7:35, 10:05pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 11:45am, 2:10, 4:35, 7:35, 10:05pm

**Rumor Has It ....**: Fri, 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 9:55; Sat-Mon, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 9:55pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 9:55

**\*Tristan & Isolde**: Fri, 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05; Sat-Mon, 10:05am, 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05

**TINSELTOWN SOUTH** South I-35 at Stassney, 326-3800.

**\*BloodRayne**: 7:35, 10:05

**Cheaper by the Dozen 2**: Fri-Mon, 10:45am, 1:05, 3:50, 6:40, 9:20pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:05, 3:50, 6:40, 9:20

**The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**: Fri-Mon, 10:50am, 11:35, 1:00, 1:55, 3:30, 4:15, 5:00, 7:50, 9:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/19), 1:00, 1:55, 3:30, 4:15, 5:00, 7:50, 9:15

**The Family Stone**: Fri-M



diagnosed with brain diseases and discover their moxie through base jumping in the Czech Republic, let us at least have Queen Latifah's brass to add a bass note to the treacle.

— Marrit Ingman

★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

## LOGGERHEADS

*D: Tim Kirkman; with Kip Pardue, Tess Harper, Bonnie Hunt, Michael Kelly, Chris Sarandon, Michael Learned, Ann Pierce, Valerie Watkins, Robin Weigert. (NR, 95 min.)*

There's so much ache in this plaintive little film that it almost makes you believe that the entire world is composed of estranged parents and children searching in vain for one another. The characters in *Loggerheads* are all dealing with the residue of decisions made years earlier, decisions and actions that ultimately did not produce the desired consequences. Although each character's life is infused with an overarching sadness, few of them will cop to its presence. It's like the comment made to Elizabeth (Harper)

by a neighbor who places an anatomically correct figure of David in her front garden: "That's your answer for everything. Move it to the back yard." The film takes place in three North Carolina towns — Asheville, Eden, and Kure Beach — and it's almost worth seeing for pure travelogue reasons alone. In Asheville, Grace (Hunt) returns to her mother's home to begin a search for the child she gave up for adoption more than 20 years ago at the age of 17. She feels as though she never made the decision herself, even though she agrees with her mother (Learned) that at the time it was the best thing for everyone involved. But now she is stymied by the state's "closed adoption" laws, which permanently seal the adoption records. Eden is home to the longtime married couple, Elizabeth (Harper) and Robert (Sarandon) — the kind of intolerant people who worry that their new neighbors might be Mexican and then experience an even worse fate when they discover that the neighbors are not Mexican but homosexual. Robert is also a reverend, and it gradually

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— OWEN GLEIBERMAN, ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

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— PETER TRAVERS, ROLLING STONE

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Our critics rarely — almost never — confer the highest rating, which is reserved for movies that will be viewed and discussed for years to come. Heath Ledger gives a bona fide knock-your-socks-off performance."  
— MICHAEL BARNES, AUSTIN AMERICAN-STATESMAN

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Dallas-Fort Worth Film Critics Association Winner  
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St. Louis Gateway Film Critics Association Winner  
Florida Film Critics Circle Winner  
Utah Film Critics Association Winner  
Las Vegas Film Critics Society Winner

**HEATH LEDGER  
JAKE GYLLENHAAL**

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DOWNTOWN - 4TH AND COLORADO					
THU, JAN 12	AGLIFF presents THAT MAN - PETER BERLIN	7:00			
	TRAPPED IN THE CLOSET SING-ALONG	9:45			
FRI, JAN 13	FOLEYVISION: FILIPINO WONDERWOMAN	7 & 9:45			
SAT, JAN 14	VERONICA MARS SNEAK PEEK	10:30am			
SUN, JAN 15	HERZOG: NOSFERATU	4:00			
	VERONICA MARS SNEAK PEEK	7:00			
MON, JAN 16	SUPER HAPPY FUN MONKEYBASH DX (VOL.3)	7:00			
	MLK DAY: JAMES BROWN 1968	9:45			
TUE, JAN 17	FORMELRY KNOWN AS CAPT. BEEFHEART	7:00			
	WERNER HERZOG: WHEEL OF TIME	9:45			
WED, JAN 18	TX DOC TOUR: TOUCH THE SOUND	7:00			
	HERZOG: WHEEL OF TIME	9:45			
	WEIRD WED (FREE) PIGS	MIDNIGHT			
THU, JAN 19	THIRD COAST: LEFT OF THE DIAL	7:00			
	TRAPPED IN THE CLOSET SING-ALONG	9:45			

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DICK AND JANE •	12:15*	230*	450	730	950
HOSTEL •	145*	415	720	1035	1135
JESUS IS MAGIC				1140 (Fri & Sat)	
KING KONG			1200*	400	755
MUNICH	11:15*	300	705	1030	
NARNIA •	12:30*	330	645	955	
WALK THE LINE	12:45*	345	715	1015	
AFS: NIXON	700	(Tues - Free!)			

VILLAGE - ANDERSON LANE WEST OF BURNET					
GLORY ROAD •	11:55*	405	710	1000	
HARRY POTTER	12:05*				
KING KONG	12:00*	400	800		
NARNIA	12:25*	345	705	1010	
WALK THE LINE	340	700	955		
STUNT ROCK		Midnight (Fri & Sat)			
VIDEOKE		Midnight (Fri)			
ROCKY HORROR		Midnight (Sat)			

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MEMORIES  
GEISHA (11:45 3:00) 7:05 10:25  
Rumor (11:00 3:55) 7:05 10:25  
SYRIANA 7:15 10:25

**MUNICH** (11:20 3:00) 7:30 10:35  
THE PRODUCERS (12:30 3:45) 7:10 10:50

**Family Stone** 0:45 & 1:00 / 7:30 / 10:10  
**Harry Potter** (11:25 3:00)  
**BLIND** (11:30 1:45 & 4:10) <120 9:55

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SINCE 1992



# James Brown Live at the Boston Garden 1968

**James Brown Live at the Boston Garden 1968 (2004)** (NR, 80 min.) Celebrate MLK Day with this famous James Brown concert that was broadcast on WGBH in Boston, Mass., on April 5, less than 24 hours after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. As violence was breaking out across America, Boston Mayor Kevin White was considering canceling all public events, including the James Brown concert. But the “hardest working man in show business” kept the date, dedicated the show to King, and electrified the audience. WGBH broadcast the show live at the mayor’s urging, to encourage people to stay home and watch TV instead of roam the streets and riot. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Monday, 9:45pm; \$1.



becomes clear this emissary of God has kicked his own son from their home when he discovered the teen was gay. In Kure Beach, motel owner George (Kelly) befriends a young man (Pardue) who has taken to sleeping on the beach to guard the loggerhead turtles that come there to nest. The parallels between humans and the turtles who instinctively return to nest in the exact spot where they were born is a theme writer-director Kirkman (*Dear Jesse*) overindulges. The convergence of the three storylines occurs at a leisurely pace, and the performances are all so heartbreaking that the movie is affecting to watch. However, the movie is ultimately sketchy in regard to details as sequences continually end with black-outs rather than continuity, while also overemphasizing thematic motifs and ts “based on a true story” realism. But if you can shake out some of the chafing bits of sand that weigh down *Loggerheads*, you’ll find a heartfelt story about people coming to terms with irrevocable loss.

– Marjorie Baumgarten  
★★★ Dobie

## TRISTAN & ISOLDE

*D: Kevin Reynolds; with James Franco, Sophia Myles, Rufus Sewell, David O’Hara, Henry Cavill, J.B. Blanc, Jamie King.* (PG-13, 125 min.)

“Before Romeo & Juliet, there was ...” Irritating sentence fragment aside, *Tristan & Isolde*’s marketing department got it right. The plot elements have mutated over time, as the myth morphed from 12th-century French poetry to Arthurian offshoot and later, fodder for Wagner, but the story of the star-cross’d Irish princess and the Cornwellian knight who got bitten bad by the love bug (or, depending on the source myth, slurped it from Love Potion No. 9) has always been top of the charts in terms of tragic pairings. Baz Luhrman knew what he was doing when he played out Romeo and Juliet’s climactic death pact to the strains of Wagner’s “Liebestod” (some of the most achingly gorgeous music ever put to page). Would that *Tristan & Isolde*’s director, Kevin Reynolds, were similarly inspired toward homage to lift, say, a sassy transvestite or acid tab from Luhrman’s joyfully untraditional adaptation. Alas and alack: no hint of humor or crossdressing in this dopey, mopey, all-around bore. The opening minutes drag out the backstory: Ireland at war with its charges (a motley assortment that straggles toward unification); an orphaned youth, Tristan, taken in

by his kindly uncle, Lord Marke (Sewell, uncharacteristically cuckolded); and a sad-eyed Irish lass named Isolde, bitter at a father, the brutish Irish king, who treats her like chattel. Fast-forward nine years: Tristan (Franco) washes up on Irish soil half-dead and is quickly revived by Isolde (Myles). She conceals her identity, they make hot love in the sand, he goes back to where he came from, then returns to unwittingly win her hand in marriage for his uncle, the soon-to-be King of England. Screenwriter Dean Georgaris gets a hell of a pass here – the story is canon, and, in terms of emotional wallop, does all the heavy lifting for him – but he still manages to gunk up the works with dialogue that is dull-witted at best and outright howling at its worst (the clunkers “Take me to the river!” and “Why does loving you feel so wrong?” had me humming Al Green and Luther Ingram in seesawing measures). The film picks up in its last quarter, when Georgaris wisely puts aside so many murderous looks and piffing love declarations for some old-fashioned killing and pillaging, but then botches it again by forcing the viewer to ask: When a war is going down, why are the king and his fiercest lieutenants taking a time-out to attend to the lovesick? It isn’t all Georgaris’ fault: Reynolds, most damningly remembered as the captain of *Waterworld*, recalls none of the spryness of his 1991 blockbuster, *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves* (which hasn’t exactly aged well, but could be confused for quality vintage compared to *T&I*’s canned grape); cinematographer Artur Reinhart dinges everything his camera glances upon (the battle scenes are a mess of swinging axe and mud, the Irish coast a total washout); and the titular lovers come off like horndog adolescents ... which would explain their fondness for cooing poetry to each other in the buff. Myles, a suitably medieval-looking British actress, is all right, although her performance owes a major debt to her marvelous hair weave. But Franco – best known from the *Spider-Man* franchise, more beloved as *Freaks and Geeks*’ Daniel Desario – is a disaster: too pretty to pass for an adrenalized warrior, too tearful to make for a convincing lover. But then, had you headlined this dog – the shooting of which, incidentally, wrapped more than two years ago, making for an especially long haul to the multiplex – you might look a little weepy, too.

– Kimberley Jones  
★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

# First Runs

\*Full-length reviews available online at [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com). Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

### BLOODRAYNE

*D: Uwe Boll; with Kristanna Loken, Michelle Rodriguez, Ben Kingsley, Michael Madsen, Matthew Davis, Billy Zane, Will Sanderson, Udo Kier, Meat Loaf, Michael Paré, Geraldine Chaplin.* (R, 94 min.)

The controversial film director Boll has delivered another in his dubious string of video-game-to-movie adaptations. Boll has earned his reputation as a modern-day Ed Wood with his inept but driven filmmaking, although the comparisons end there as Boll’s abilities as a producer and fundraiser far exceed the quality of his finished product. *BloodRayne*, the story of a half-human/half-vampire woman who’s bent on revenge against the vampire king who defiled her mother, is no different. However, *BloodRayne* does stand out for its collection of acting “names” who appear in this historical fantasy (most startlingly, Ben Kingsley), and a script by Guinevere Turner (the actress/writer who’s more commonly associated with the films *Go Fish* and the TV show *The L Word*, than with video-game makeovers). Maybe everyone involved was hoping that no one would see this movie, but Madsen is the only one who should *fear* anyone seeing his work. Never has an actor looked this dissipated on film.

(01/06/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten  
✂ CM Barton Creek, Highland, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

### ★ BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN

*D: Ang Lee; with Heath Ledger, Jake Gyllenhaal, Michelle Williams, Anne Hathaway, Linda Cardellini, Randy Quaid.* (R, 134 min.)

Enough with the “gay cowboy” label, a phrase that has a way of diminishing this amazing movie’s focus and reach. *Brokeback Mountain* is a love story that’s defined by its staggering heartbreak. The film is no more – or less – a gay cowboy movie than *Casablanca* is a hetero émigré romance or *King Kong* is a love story between human and simian. The lovemaking in *Brokeback* is modestly filmed by modern standards, a choice made by director Ang Lee who, apart from his last film, *The Hulk*, has never misjudged public taste. The passage of 20 years in a frustrating state of limbo is what makes *Brokeback* the romantic tragedy it is: The love itself isn’t sad, only its seeming impossibility. Although it’s possible to point to some weak spots in *Brokeback*, there is no movie this year that has moved my heart more. (12/16/2005) – Marjorie Baumgarten  
★★★★ Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Tinseltown North, Westgate

### ★ CAPOTE

*D: Bennett Miller; with Philip Seymour Hoffman, Catherine Keener, Clifton Collins Jr., Chris Cooper, Bruce Greenwood, Bob Balaban, Amy Ryan, Mark Pellegrino.* (R, 98 min.)

*Capote* is a good film, but it hasn’t closed the book on the subject, not by a long shot. First-time screenwriter Dan Futterman has narrowed his focus to the years surrounding Capote’s work on the seminal *In Cold Blood*. The film provides an absorbing, if limited, look at the writing life: its physical and mental demands and its moral ambiguities. Director Miller (*The Cruise*) has created a film that is confident, mature, and measured, but I wonder if it isn’t too controlled. The beats are all there; Capote’s trajectory begins with a reporter’s initial impartiality, slides into complicity, takes a hard-right turn into ruthlessness, and ends, finally, near catatonia as the killers’ execution date looms. But the film doesn’t linger in these states long enough. The fault does not lie with Hoffman (who doesn’t so much act out Capote’s distinctive mannerisms and high-pitched lisp as channel them); his performance is undeniably great. Everything else – solid, satisfying though it may be – falls short of that greatness. (10/28/2005) – Kimberley Jones  
★★★★ Arbor, Dobie

### CASANOVA

*D: Lasse Hallström; with Heath Ledger, Sienna Miller, Jeremy Irons, Oliver Platt, Lena Olin, Omid Djalili.* (R, 108 min.)

Hallström’s latest is fine but unambitious, content with what it is – an arthouse trifle for the masses, with tricorner hats, corsets, and powdered wigs, a charming re-creation of 1750s Venice, musings on horseback about true and false love, a semihistorical basis, and ever so many ostensibly delightful romantic misap-

prehensions. Its characters do not have elaborately developed inner lives, and the story is one of those complex but boring parlor farce thingies. Aspects of the production are awfully PBS, and Hallström’s direction is as sunny and bland as K-TEL. But he’s still wonderful with his actors, and the ensemble cast is excellent, although Miller seems perilously unproven in this company. Ledger inhabits the role of history’s famed horndog with ease and obvious delight. Best is Ledger’s interplay with his valet, played by British-Iranian comic Djallili, who is a lovely, Fellini-esque foil. (They are the real couple in the film.) The standout star, however, is Platt. (01/06/2006) – Marrit Ingman  
★★★ Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

### CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2

*D: Adam Shankman; with Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt, Eugene Levy, Piper Perabo, Carmen Electra, Eugene Levy, Hilary Duff, Tom Welling, Alyson Stoner.* (PG, 100 min.)

It’s the snobs vs. the slobs! And this holiday’s no picnic! Choreographer-turned-director Shankman (Martin-starrer *Bringing Down the House*) takes the wheel of this unasked-for sequel, which fuses the original concept with the well-worn formula of the family-vacation romp (think *Summer Rental* and *The Great Outdoors*). The filmmakers stop short of actually exhuming John Candy, but they’re otherwise shameless. When Tom Baker (Martin) corrals his brood of 12 for old-fashioned bonding up at the lake, the gang promptly runs afoul of Jimmy Murtaugh (Levy, the perennial B-comedy go-to guy), a corporate blowhard who owns the surrounding property with his blow-up trophy wife (Electra, who gamely makes sport of herself). Hunt is marvelous and down-to-earth, but the rest of the movie is as funny as mildew, unless you really like watching Martin dance like a dork and get socked in the scrotum, or you really need to see Electra getting humped by a dog. (12/23/2005) – Marrit Ingman  
★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown South, Westgate

## THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

*D: Andrew Adamson; with Georgie Henley, Skandar Keynes, William Moseley, Anna Popplewell, Tilda Swinton, James McAvoy, Jim Broadbent; with the voices of Liam Neeson.* (PG, 135 min.)

This is fusillade No. 1 in Disney’s presumed seven-film adaptation of C.S. Lewis’ beloved children’s tales, in which the four Pevensie children are sent by their mother to the English countryside where they encounter a magical wardrobe that functions as the portal to the miraculous land of Narnia, ruled by the White Witch (Swinton), an evil character intent on enslaving the more sun-dappled areas, held by the wise and noble lion Aslan (voiced by Neeson). There’s much to dine on visually, but the fact of the matter – whether you fell in love with the seven *Narnia* books as a child or not – is that \$150 million no longer seem to add up to very convincing special effects, and in a world populated by a hodgepodge of mythic beasts, that’s a huge problem. The film’s rapid, almost video-game sense of narrative means there’s no sense of calm before the gathering storm because the film is *all* storm. (12/09/2005) – Marc Savlov

★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

### THE FAMILY STONE

*D: Thomas Bezucha; with Sarah Jessica Parker, Diane Keaton, Claire Danes, Dermot Mulroney, Craig T. Nelson, Rachel McAdams, Luke Wilson, Tyrone Giordano, Brian J. White, Elizabeth Reaser, Paul Schneider, Savannah Stehlin.* (PG-13, 102 min.)

In plotting her next career move, it makes sense that Parker would want to avoid typecasting and steer clear of any flirty, free-spirit types like Carrie Bradshaw. But methinks Parker may have tipped too far in the other direction: No one’s going to confuse this latest role – as Meredith, an uptight woman meeting her boyfriend’s family for the first time – with the impish Carrie. (As if you didn’t know there’s a midmovie transformation coming.) The Stones are a fiercely protective, clique-ish clan and none-too-impressed with Meredith, so the subtle sabotage begins. There is some romantic intrigue, as well, but I’m disheartened to report that there’s not a lick of chemistry here. The real love affair here is among the Stone family, and there are just too many damn characters, with the best ones taking a back seat to the dullish love quadrangle. (12/16/2005) – Kimberley Jones  
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate



## Nixon

**Nixon (1995)** D: Oliver Stone; with Anthony Hopkins, Joan Allen, Powers Boothe, Ed Harris, Bob Hoskins, E.G. Marshall, David Paymer, David Hyde Pierce, Paul Sorvino, Mary Steenburgen, J.T. Walsh, James Woods. (R, 190 min.) **Austin Film Society: Official Evil – Political Thrillers in Cinema.** Stone's biopic is packed with material that continues to fascinate and irk moviegoers of all stripes. For more info see [www.austinfilm.org](http://www.austinfilm.org), where seat reservations may also be made. Also note special venue location for this series screening only. (\*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, Tuesday, 7pm; AFS members free, \$4 general admission.



## KING KONG

D: Peter Jackson; with Naomi Watts, Jack Black, Adrien Brody, Andy Serkis. (PG-13, 187 min.)  
Jackson's remake of Merian C. Cooper's 1933 cinematic godhead is more than the sum of its gargantuan parts; it's also a sweet-natured romantic fable, albeit one that packs in carnivorous cockroaches, rampaging brontosaurus, and the ever-Freudian Empire State Building. It's also a corker of an action/monster movie: part RKO serial; part square-jawed, manly romp; and part classic journey into the unknown that recalls and references, surprisingly and splendidly, Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*. Jackson's film is littered with canny references to Cooper's original, but never fails to be its own unique hybrid. Much of that uniqueness, which makes the whole familiar story fresh again, comes from advances in special-effects technology. This half-human, half-CGI creation will make you reach for your hankie. The interplay between Watts' melancholy blond and the great ape is almost too real to be believed. It's enough to make you weep not only for the displaced and doomed Kong but for the nearly lost art of cinematic panache. (12/16/2005) – Marc Savlov  
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

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## capote

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MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA

D: Rob Marshall; with Ziyi Zhang, Michelle Yeoh, Gong Li, Ken Watanabe, Kôji Yakusho, Youki Kudoh, Cary-Hiroyuki Tagawa. (PG-13, 145 min.)

Well, we're not in Chicago anymore, but that hasn't stopped Oscar-nominated director Marshall from fashioning another epic spectacle out of two squabbling women in (a sort-of) show business. Based on the literary bestseller by Arthur Golden, *Memoirs of a Geisha* charts the impressive rise of a fishing-village indigent who, sold into servitude, eventually conquers her chief rival and all of Kyoto as its most powerful geisha, Sayuri (Zhang). The script unpacks a lot of practical information about the geisha lifestyle in a relatively gainly fashion (although the voiceover narration proves largely unnecessary and, on occasion, fairly damaging). Sayuri's circumstance and surroundings are historically fascinating things; her character, not so much. Zhang may just be too much of a firecracker to really sell the milque-toast Sayuri. Far more fun is Asian superstar Gong Li as Sayuri's main competition. The film's other chief pleasure – the spectacular set and costume design – exits with the pesky arrival of World War II into the plot. (12/23/2005) – Kimberley Jones ★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

MUNICH

D: Steven Spielberg; with Eric Bana, Daniel Craig, Giarán Hinds, Mathieu Kassovitz, Geoffrey Rush, Valeria Bruni Tedeschi, Yvan Attal, Hanns Zischler, Ayelet Zurer, Moritz Bleibtreu, Gila Almagor, Michael Lonsdale. (R, 164 min.) Spielberg's take on the events following the murders of 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Summer Olympic Games in Munich by the PLO faction Black September is riveting stuff. With its deeply ambiguous moral compass swinging from one extreme to the next, it's also a horrifically topical meditation on the ultimate futility of vengeance, even when that vengeance seems entirely justified by previous events. Bana (*The Hulk*) plays Mossad agent Avner, who takes on this seemingly impossible mission with unlimited funding but not much else. He's one of Spielberg's most complex characters to date. There are obvious parallels to current events, of course, and Spielberg and screenwriter Tony Kushner (*Angels in America*) take tremendous pains to humanize both sides of the issue. *Munich* is dense, thoughtful filmmaking that nonetheless flies along as though it were tethered to the devil's own sled. Seething not only with multilayered, subtextual arguments, it's also a heck of a thriller. (12/30/2005) – Marc Savlov ★★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

NINE LIVES

D: Rodrigo García; with Kathy Baker, Amy Brenneman, Glenn Close, Stephen Dillane, Dakota Fanning, William Fichtner, Lisa Gay Hamilton, Holly Hunter, Jason Isaacs, Joe Mantegna, Ian McShane, Molly Parker, Mary Kay Place, Aidan Quinn, Amanda Seyfried, Sissy Spacek, Robin Wright Penn. (R, 115 min.) A woman goes shopping for groceries, and her world is upended. Although writer/director García sets some of the scenes in his omnibus film in more classically dramatic places – a graveyard, a funeral home, a hospital room – *Nine Lives*' most heartrending piece takes place in the neon-toned impersonality of the supermarket aisle. García has made his name – in addition to being the son of Gabriel García Marquez – as a women's director, dedicated to exploring what it means to be a wife, a mother, a daughter. *Nine Lives* is composed of nine occasionally interlocking vignettes, starring a dozen or so terrific, mostly character, actresses, although Penn is the standout. Plot, if it may be called that, is confined to each vignette, and that is this movie's only frustration: Certain characters and their particular pains become so engrossing in their 10-minute bits that it's sad to see them go. (01/06/2006) – Kimberley Jones ★★★★★ Arbor

PRIDE & PREJUDICE

D: Joe Wright; with Keira Knightley, Matthew Macfadyen, Brenda Blethyn, Donald Sutherland, Rosamund Pike, Jena Malone, Tom Hollander, Judi Dench. (PG, 127 min.) This fresh adaptation shakes the dust off Jane Austen's novel and gives it a good airing out. The result is a witty and lovesick skirmish of the sexes that exceeds all expectations. The prickly courtship between the headstrong Lizzie Bennett (Knightley) and the sullen Mr. Darcy (Macfadyen) is one of English literature's great romantic entangle-

Left of the Dial

**Left of the Dial (2005)** D: Patrick Farrelly and Kate O'Callaghan. (NR, 98 min.) **Third Coast Activist and KOKE-AM.** This HBO documentary examines the excitement that accompanied the start-up of the Air America radio network and some fallout that occurred during its initial period of operation. With Al Franken, Randi Rhodes, Janeane Garofalo, and others. For more info see [www.thirdcoastactivist.org](http://www.thirdcoastactivist.org). @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Thursday, 7pm; \$6.50 general, \$5 students/seniors.



ments, and this screen version of *Pride & Prejudice* imbues their rocky relationship with a vitality that's missing from most paint-by-number love stories. While the class and gender stratifications in Austen's world may be uncomfortably retro for a contemporary audience, the film makes good use of them in contrast to the more egalitarian interactions between Lizzie and Darcy. Indeed, for all the talk about a woman's need for marital protection and the manner in which the Bennett daughters flutter about every time there's a bachelor afoot, there's a plucky feminism in this movie, embodied by Knightley's eye-opening performance as Lizzie. (11/11/2005) – Steve Davis ★★★★★ Arbor, CM Barton Creek

THE PRODUCERS

D: Susan Stroman; with Nathan Lane, Matthew Broderick, Uma Thurman, Will Ferrell, Roger Bart, Gary Beach, Jon Lovitz, Andrea Martin, Debra Monk. (PG-13, 134 min.) Oversexed octogenarians, queeny homosexuals, and obsessed Nazis all outrageously figured in Mel Brooks' inspired 1968 comedy *The Producers*, a film that walked the fine line between the offensive and the funny with riotous effect. In the film version of the smash Broadway musical based on Brooks' comic chestnut, however, the same material has little shock value by today's standards. Still, the film's showbiz schtick, which is grounded in the traditions of burlesque and vaudeville, can be pretty damn hilarious at times, thanks in large part to a cast led by Lane. But the wonderfully over-the-top performances often feel constrained by first-time film director Stroman, whose inexperience behind the camera is all too apparent. Her static camerawork (particularly in the musical numbers) undercuts a lot of the laughs. Sure, not every film musical these days needs to reinvent the genre in the manner of *Moulin Rouge* or *Chicago*, but Stroman's flat and often lifeless direction does the film a disservice. (12/30/2005) – Steve Davis ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

THE RINGER

D: Barry W. Blaustein; with Johnny Knoxville, Brian Cox, Katherine Heigl, Camille Chen, Geoffrey Arend, Bill Cott, Luis Avalos, Leonard Flowers, Edward Barbanell, Jed Rees, Leonard Earl Howze. (PG-13, 94 min.) It seems to me that a comedy that purports to have a message about treating the intellectually challenged as regular human beings and stars Johnny "Jackass" Knoxville is about as disingenuous as a comedy that urges us to see past a person's body size to appreciate the beauty within and stars Gwyneth Paltrow in a fat suit. Oh wait. That's *Shallow Hal*, you say, and the Farrelly Brothers already produced that movie a few years ago (with brother Bobby also directing)? And now they're back producing *The Ringer*, which happened to be filmed in the Austin/San Marcos area? This film takes a gauche premise – an average joe enters the Special Olympics as a ringer,

confident he will win big money – and adds some comeuppance, romantic intrigue, and inspirational lessons. The result is an uneven comedy, whose occasionally hilarious lines of dialogue don't fully compensate for its long interludes of predictability. (12/23/2005) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

RUMOR HAS IT ...

D: Rob Reiner; with Jennifer Aniston, Kevin Costner, Shirley MacLaine, Mark Ruffalo, Richard Jenkins, Mena Suvari. (PG-13, 96 min.) Fans of *The Graduate* should skip this strange comedy, which posits that the real-life inspiration for counterculture icon Benjamin Braddock grew up to be a cheesy, brainless high-tech zillionaire doing yoga and driving a Mercedes around Half Moon Bay. Baby-boomer Reiner has no qualms about selling out his generational cohort, and *Rumor Has It ...* is likewise aggressive with the Hollywood heartstrings – an unusual approach, since the script is pretty much off-the-wall. Saturnine Sarah (Aniston) discovers the family secret: Her grandmother (MacLaine) and mother inspired *The Graduate*'s Mrs. Robinson and Elaine, and their shared lover (Costner) might be her biological father. Once Aniston's character rules out Costner's paternity, they have sex, which creates a bizarre and uncomfortable scenario that Reiner plays like straight fluffy farce. In the hands of a more innovative director, we'd be invited to explore our revulsion. Instead, it's passed off as a funny love triangle. (12/30/2005) – Marrit Ingman ☼ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

THE SQUID AND THE WHALE

D: Noah Baumbach; with Jeff Daniels, Laura Linney, Jesse Eisenberg, Owen Kline, Halley Feiffer, William Baldwin, David Benger. (R, 80 min.) The opening line lays it all out on the table: "It's Mom and me versus you and Dad." Young Frank (Kline) is merely delineating sides for a family game of tennis, but when that family – the Berkman's of Park Slope, Brooklyn, circa 1986 – soon after dissolves in divorce, the opposing camps are pretty neatly summarized the same. Fifteen-year-old Walt (Eisenberg) sides with their father, Bernard (Daniels), a once-famous author whose reputation is in freefall. Frank is less obvious about it, but his heart is with his mother, Joan (Linney), whose own writing career is just taking off. There are no heroes here. Bernard is a pompous poseur; Joan, an unapologetic philanderer. Walt's a mini-Bernard in the making, and Frank is utterly neglected. The Berkman's are all comical figures, but Baumbach never denies them their humanity. This is humor served not with a smirk but with a helpless shrug. (11/04/2005) – Kimberley Jones ★★★★★ Dobie



SYRIANA

D: Stephen Gaghan; with George Clooney, Matt Damon, Jeffrey Wright, Christopher Plummer, Chris Cooper, William Hurt, Alexander Siddig, Amanda Peet, Tim Blake Nelson, Mazhar Munir, Jamey Sheridan, Peter Gerety, Robert Foxworth. (R, 128 min.) Like the saying about the butterfly flapping its wings on one side of the world and affecting currents on the other, *Syriana* shows how the multitentacled quest to control oil supplies in one part of the world can affect (both intentionally and inadvertently) people, lives, and decisions in another. *Syriana* is a challenging and uncompromising movie. Like writer-director Gaghan's Oscar-winning adapted screenplay for *Traffic*, *Syriana* is a complexly structured narrative that follows several different characters and storylines that only begin to cohere into one larger story as the movie draws toward its climax. *Syriana* is more diffusely focused than *Traffic*, however. You'll probably never feel completely clear about the activities of and relationships among all the characters, but it's exactly this tangle that gives *Syriana* a true-to-life feel. There's a lot to absorb here, but it's refreshing to be in the midst of a movie that regards its audience as up to the task. (12/09/2005) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown South, Westgate

WALK THE LINE

D: James Mangold; with Joaquin Phoenix, Reese Witherspoon, Robert Patrick, Shelby Lynne, Ginnifer Goodwin, Larry Bagby, Tyler Hilton, Dallas Roberts, Johnathan Rice, Shooter Jennings, Waylon Payne. (PG-13, 136 min.) Musician Johnny Cash circumvented the rowdy mantrap of diminishing rock & roll returns by giving up his one true love – little white speed pills – for his other one true love – young Memphis country and gospel sasspot June Carter (Witherspoon), a powder keg of padlocked passions whose sparks ignited for her music, friends, family, and also, to her dismay, this black-clad baritone with the quiver in his voice and the arrow in his heart. Joaquin Phoenix as Cash is the next best thing to having been there, I suppose, and although the sinner man's early successes and echoing woes look chaotically entertaining indeed in that hellishly dashing sort of way young doomsters can exude, the wreckage he leaves in his wake is quick and obvious and banal. Only the steady output of his lonely locomotive guitar and plaintive, almost homely, voice made this bad Cash worth anybody's jukebox dime. (11/18/2005) – Marc Savlov ★★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Gateway, Metropolitan

WOLF CREEK

D: Greg McLean; with John Jarratt, Cassandra Magrath, Kestie Morassi, Nathan Phillips. (NR, 99 min.) *Wolf Creek* is essentially an accomplished Aussie version of *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* – right from its "based on actual events" setup to the final shot of its boogeyman slipping into the sunset with his rifle like Leatherface and his chainsaw. It's also a viscerally told slasher film that manages to do an awful lot with very little. With basically four characters and just a few sets, the film tells the story of three college-aged vacationers, who are kidnapped and held hostage by a crazy from the outback. Bound and tortured in a variety of grotesque and gruesome ways (particularly the women), the kidnappers spend the whole second half of the movie trying to make an escape. *Wolf Creek* exists for no reason other than to inflict an acute sense of inescapable and inscrutable torture upon the story's victims – and, by extension, the audience. If that's what you're into, *Wolf Creek* should be a satisfying assault. (12/30/2005) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ Metropolitan

ZATHURA

D: Jon Favreau; with Jonah Bobo, Josh Hutcherson, Dax Shepard, Kristen Stewart, Tim Robbins, Frank Oz, John Alexander, Derek Mears. (PG, 113 min.) With his follow-up to *Elf*, actor-turned-director Jon Favreau sticks with family-friendly filmmaking, this time taking on the film version of Chris van Allsburg's bestselling children's book *Zathura*. This film succeeds in a way that neither of the previous van Allsburg film adaptations (*Jumanji*, *The Polar Express*) managed: It's infused with a greater sense of fun and realism. Favreau keeps the picture throting forward with a carefree charm: a space adven-



ture that goes forth with a Buck Rogers attitude as silly gizmos, robots, and monsters turn from mildly goofy to dangerous and threatening in the blink of an eye. The tone of the fantasy and the effects are just right: enough to surprise and startle everyone and even spook the littlest ones, but so gleefully defiant of the laws of physics and aeronautics that it's clear the film's only objective is to have a good time. (11/11/2005) — Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ Millennium

Check film listings online for full-length reviews, up-to-date showtimes, archives, and more!

**austinchronicle.com/film**

## Also Playing

\*Full-length reviews available online at **austinchronicle.com**. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

**CHICKEN LITTLE** ★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Metropolitan

**GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK** ★★★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Dobie

**HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE** ★★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

**SAW II** ★★ Millennium

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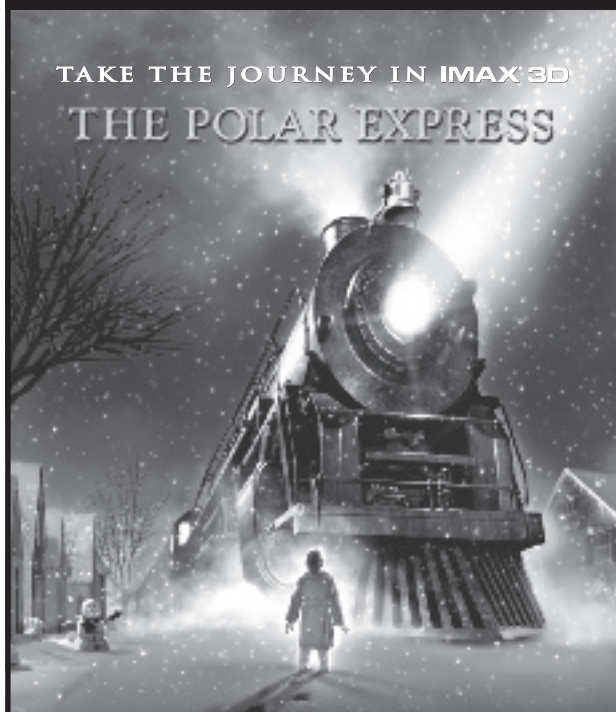
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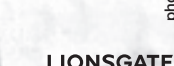
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# Special Screenings

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (\*) indicates full-length reviews available online: [austinchronicle.com/film](http://austinchronicle.com/film).



Sarah Silverman:  
Jesus Is Magic

## THURSDAY 1 2

**That Man: Peter Berlin (2005)** *D: Jim Tushinski. (NR, 80 min.)* **aGLIFF.** This is an encore presentation of this past festival's winner of the Best Documentary award. It presents a biographical portrait of Berlin – one of the most famous of all gay icons, a Seventies hunk with a Dutch boy haircut and bulging trousers, a photographer, porn star, and scenester. (\*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm; \$6.50 general; \$5 students/seniors/aGLIFF members.

**The Princess Bride (1987)** *D: Rob Reiner; with Mel Smith, Billy Crystal, Carol Kane, Peter Cook, Peter Falk, Robin Wright, Fred Savage, Andre the Giant, Wallace Shawn, Christopher Guest, Chris Sarandon, Cary Elwes, Mandy Patinkin. (PG, 98 min.)* Whimsical, comedic fairy tale with large cult following. @Paramount, 7pm; \$7 adults (\$6 before 6pm), \$5 children/students/seniors.

**Trapped in the Closet: The R. Kelly Sing-Along Austin Lyric Opera.** Rap along with R. Kelly, as a live cast from Austin Lyric Opera acts out the onscreen actions and a bevy of props hidden around the room waits to be discovered. Hosted by the inimitable Henri Mazza. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

## FRIDAY 1 3

**Darna (The Filipino Wonder Woman) Foleyvision.** All the sound in this copycat Filipino film is stripped out, and then every line of dialogue, note of music, and sound effect is performed live before your eyes by the ever-inventive Foleyvision cast. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45pm.

**Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic (2005)** *D: Liam Lynch; with Sarah Silverman, Brian Posehn, Bob Odenkirk, Laura Silverman. (NR, 72 min.)* Spotty comedy delivers on its promise of Total Silverman, but that turns out to be not such a good thing after all. (\*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 12mid.

**Stunt Rock (1978)** *D: Brian Trenchard-Smith; with Grant Page, Smokey Huff, Richard Taylor. (NR, 86 min.)* Legendarily bad movie combines stunt-work and heavy metal music. The tagline reads “Death Wish at 120 Decibels.” @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

**The Princess Bride (1987)** @Paramount, 7pm; \$7 adults (\$6 before 6pm), \$5 children/students/seniors. (See Thu., 01/12)

**Videoke** Act out scenes from various movies and win prizes. See [www.originalalamo.com](http://www.originalalamo.com) for details. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

### SPACES

**Camacho Film Festival and Carnival** Not to be outdone during awards season, this Eastside fest features limos, swarms of faux paparazzi, and a red carpet, followed by a screening of five films directed, shot, acted, and edited by young local talents (ages 6-14) and a movie-themed carnival. Included in this fifth annual festival is “The Fantastic Poor,” a

special-effects showcase chronicling the exploits of some down-and-out superheroes. Call 391-1863 for more info. @Camacho Activity Center, 6pm.

**He Loves Me, He Loves Me Not (2002)** *D: Laetitia Colombani; with Audrey Tautou, Samuel Le Bihan, Isabelle Carré, Clément Sibony, Sophie Guillemin. (NR, 92 min.)* Tautou (Amélie) ricochets from hopelessly in love to simply hopeless in this French film. (\*) @Austin Java Cafe & Bar, 8pm; free.

**He Loves Me, He Loves Me Not (2002)** @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1206 Parkway), 8pm; free. (See above)

## SATURDAY 1 4

**Sarah Silverman: Jesus Is Magic (2005)** @Alamo Drafthouse South, 12mid. (See Fri., 01/13)

**Stunt Rock (1978)** @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid. (See Fri., 01/13)

**The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975)** *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)* Austin Rocky Horror fans have been dressing up and doing the “Time Warp” thing live for 28 years straight. For more info see [www.austinrocky.org](http://www.austinrocky.org). @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

**Veronica Mars Panel and Sneak Peek Event** Rob Thomas, former Austinite and creator of the hit teen TV show *Veronica Mars*, and several cast members will attend both screenings, which will include world premieres of new episodes, favorite clip reels, and live band performances by groups who have been featured on the show. The screening benefits Austin Voices for Education and Youth. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

## Offscreen

**Reel Women International Film Festival** RW's second international festival will be held March 23-26, in Los Angeles, Calif., and they're accepting submissions *now*. Categories include: features, documentaries, shorts, animation, and student films, all of which must be directed by women or written and produced by women. Check their Web site for more information. [www.rwiff.com](http://www.rwiff.com).

**Student Digital Film Festival** is a non-competitive, nonprofit film festival open to students and teachers in Texas, grades K-12. ASDFF is free to enter. Check their Web site for details. Deadline: April 7. [www.austinschools.org/filmfest/index.html](http://www.austinschools.org/filmfest/index.html).

**SXSW 2006 Call for Volunteers** Volunteers are needed for the SXSW Music, Film, and Interactive conferences and festivals (March 10-19), with jobs ranging from festival production to conference activities, including registration, information, trade show, technical support, and much more. Day and night positions are available during the conference. Volunteers must be able to work a minimum of 30

## SUNDAY 1 5

**Nosferatu: The Vampyre (1979)** *D: Werner Herzog; with Klaus Kinski, Isabelle Adjani, Bruno Ganz, Roland Topor. (PG, 124 min.)* **Werner Herzog Retrospective.** Kinski makes a worthy successor to Max Schreck as the ghoulish Count Dracula in Herzog's atmospherically creepy and contemplative *Nosferatu*. Certainly the director's most popular film, his vampire film ranks as one of the genre's best. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 4pm; \$6.50 general; \$5 students/seniors/AFS; series passes available.

**The Princess Bride (1987)** @Paramount, 3pm; \$7 adults (\$6 before 6pm), \$5 children/students/seniors. (See Thu., 01/12)

**Veronica Mars Panel and Sneak Peek Event** @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm. (See Sat., 01/14)

## MONDAY 1 6

**James Brown Live at the Boston Garden 1968 (2004)** See p.72.

**Super Mecha Happy Fun Monkey Bash (Vol. 3)** The Alamo teams up with local Japanese-pop-culture enthusiast and archivist Tony Salvaggio to present the best of bizarre Japanese video oddities. Volume 3 highlights include diaper fetish fun, tons of crazy rubber costumes, live-action *Pac Man simulation*, a soul kiss with a giant octopus, nonsensical musical inventions, and more. See [originalalamo.com](http://originalalamo.com) for more info and reservations. (\*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

### SPACES

**Twin Peaks and Carnivale** An episode of *Twin Peaks* screens at 7pm, followed by an episode of *Carnivale* at 8pm. Popcorn provided. @Beerland, 7pm; free, 21 and over.

## TUESDAY 1 7

**Nixon (1995)** See p.73.

**“The Artist Formerly Known as Captain Beefheart” (1997)** *narrated by John Peel. (NR, 51 min.)* Don Van Vliet, aka Captain Beefheart, is spotlighted in this BBC documentary that recounts his childhood in the Mojave desert, his deep friendship with Frank Zappa, his discovery of the old blues masters, and the adoption of his stage name, and includes performance and rehearsal footage and samples from his art shows. Preceded by other Beefheart gems, including 1974 French television performances and Anton Corbin's 1994 short documentary on the reclusive musician, which includes testimony by David Lynch. (\*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm; \$1.

**Wheel of Time (2003)** See p.74.

### SPACES

**Documentaries and Short Films** Screenings on the back patio every Tuesday. @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1206 Parkway), 8pm; free.

## WEDNESDAY 1 8

**Pigs (1972)** *D: Marc Lawrence; with Marc Lawrence, Toni Lawrence, Jesse Vint, Paul Hickey, Katharine Ross. (R, 80 min.)* **Weird Wednesday.** The pigs in this low-budget horror film have a taste for human flesh, which is further stoked by the corpses that keep piling up. It's written and directed by (and co-stars) tough-guy actor Marc Lawrence. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

**The New World Advance Screening (2005)** *D: Terrence Malick; with Colin Farrell, Christopher Plummer, August Schellenberg, O'rianka Kilcher, Christian Bale. (PG-13)* **Austin Film Society.** Malick's transcendental take on the various cultural rapprochements between the Native Americans and the English settlers in 17th-century Jamestown pays particular focus to the relationship between John Smith and Pocahontas. Tickets go on sale at [www.austinfilm.org](http://www.austinfilm.org) on Monday at noon. @Arbor, 6pm; \$7 general, \$5 AFS members.

**Touch the Sound (2004)** *D: Thomas Riedelsheimer. (NR, 99 min.)* **Texas Documentary Tour.** As it follows the profoundly deaf percussionist Evelyn Glennie on a world tour, this documentary examines relationships among sound, rhythm, time, and the body. Director Riedelsheimer is also responsible for the contemplative documentary *Rivers and Tides* about the artist Andy Goldsworthy. (See this week's Screens section for an interview with the director.) The Texas Documentary Tour is co-sponsored by the Austin Film Society, the UT Department of RTF, and *The Austin Chronicle*. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm; \$6 general admission, \$4 for students and members of AFS; members may reserve online at [www.austinfilm.org](http://www.austinfilm.org).

**Wheel of Time (2003)** @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm. (See Tue., 01/17)

### SPACES

**The Revolution Will Not Be Televised (2003)** *D: Kim Bartley and Donnacha O'Briain. (NR, 74 min.)* A coup d'état in Venezuela is captured by a video camera, and the filmmakers use the footage to question the honesty of the news media. Free popcorn and doughnuts. (\*) @Beerland, 7pm; free, 21 and over.

## THURSDAY 1 9

**Left of the Dial (2005)** See p.74.

**Trapped in the Closet: The R. Kelly Sing-Along** @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm. (See Thu., 01/12)

### SPACES

**The End of Suburbia: Oil Depletion and the Collapse of the American Dream (2004)** *D: Gregory Greene. (NR, 78 min.)* **Austin Fight Big Media.** Global oil demand outstrips supply. See [www.postcarbon.org](http://www.postcarbon.org) for more info. @Austin Java Cafe & Bar, 7pm.

## IMAX Theatre

For ticket prices and showtimes call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM or see [www.thestoryoftexas.com](http://www.thestoryoftexas.com).

**Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon 3-D (2005)** *D: Mark Cowen; narrated by Tom Hanks. (NR, 40 min.)* What could be better than the illusion of walking on the moon? Tom Hanks co-produced and narrates this exploration of the lunar surface drawn from NASA footage and CGI images. Many famous actors read personal reminiscences of the 12 men who have walked on the moon.

**Texas: The Big Picture (2003)** *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.)* Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as Texas is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips. The film won't do anything to bust the tried-and-true stereotypes about native Texans or the state's history, but here in Texas we tend to like it that way.

**The Polar Express: An IMAX 3-D Experience (2004)** *D: Robert Zemeckis; with Tom Hanks, Michael Jeter, Peter Scolari, Nona Gaye, Eddie Deezen. (G, 100 min.)* Chris van Allsburg's magical tale of the Christmas Eve re-education of a Santa-doubting adolescent screens in all its dimensions.



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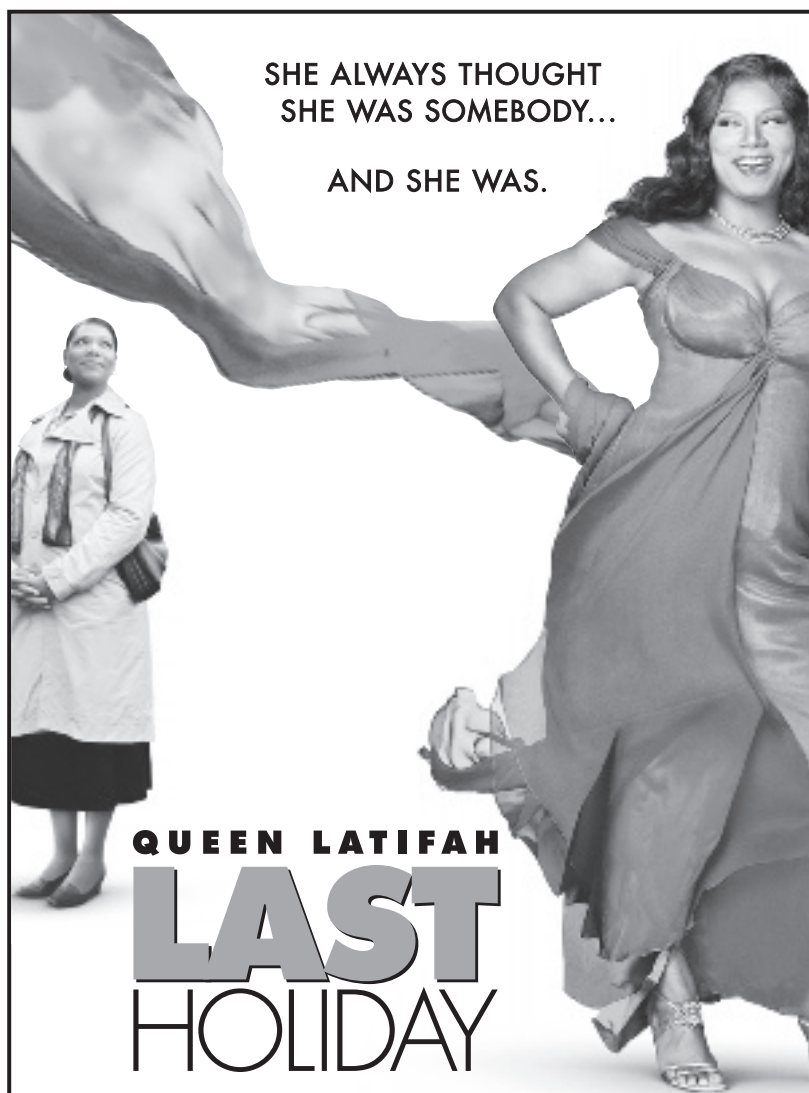
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## Heard on *Veronica Mars*

STUBB'S, FRIDAY 13

Conventional wisdom among geeks suggests that not only is *Veronica Mars* one of the best-written shows on television, it's perhaps the show with the smartest soundtrack. Credit goes to ex-Austinite and Hey Zeus bassist Rob Thomas (see this week's cover story), who for *Mars* sent more than his share of money back to ATX by using music from bands like Spoon. Thomas has lined up four more local acts here: David Garza, the Fire Marshals of Bethlehem, the Daylight Titans, and the Rite Flyers. It's a night you can't TiVo.

— Andy Langer

## Misprint Magazine Party

FLAMINGO CANTINA, FRIDAY 13

*Misprint* magazine, which never met a scenester it didn't like to make fun of, applies its satiric acumen to a local pastime in the brand-new Get Wasted issue. To test hypotheses like "The Best Places to Pass Out in Austin," the sobriety-shunning staff has enlisted the Handsome Charlies, whose local debut, *Gentlemen Never Tell*, combines Roxy Music suavity with Modest Mouse brashness. Valhalla, Basic, and Bob White & the F-Electrics offer three more chances to give those "Beer Headphones" a strenuous workout.

— Christopher Gray



Handsome Charlies

## Jason Mraz

PARAMOUNT THEATRE, SATURDAY 14

Jason Mraz is the singer-songwriter you can take home to mom. The pop folkie's compositions may be too safe at times, but the Virginia native, now headquartered in Southern

# Bettye LaVette

CONTINENTAL CLUB, THURSDAY 19

Until 2005, few had heard the name Bettye LaVette, save for a handful of Sixties soul fanatics. Then, in late September, the Detroit native released *I've Got My Own Hell to Raise* (Anti-). Produced by Joe Henry, who worked similar magic with Solomon Burke, the disc lays bare LaVette's ability to vocalize raw emotion with imposing depth. Given Henry's approach to Burke, not to the mention Rick Rubin's route with Johnny Cash, LaVette chose songs from contemporary female songwriters like Lucinda Williams, Rosanne Cash, and Dolly Parton, reworking them to fit her R&B style.

"I've spent 44 years in this business being virtually ignored," explains the singer, who turns 60 the week after her Austin debut. "Most of the stuff I've done before wasn't promoted properly and did not sell. I'm not surprised by the reaction I've gotten, more pleased. I've always suspected that if anybody gave me any help and spent any money on me that, just judging from my audience's reaction, other people might like me too."

*I've Got My Own Hell to Raise* is striking in the way it pushes LaVette's vocals to the forefront. This concentration is proclaimed loudly on the disc's opening track, an a cappella reading of Sinead O'Connor's "I Do Not Want What I Haven't Got."

"I didn't know of any music I would want with that one," LaVette recalls. "I just did my own vocal arrangement. But there's no way in the world I would have put it first [on the album]. That was Joe's idea. When I think about it, it's a great compliment. He just took my voice, and it's like I'm over at your house."

— Jim Caligiuri



California, delivered a catchy collection on last year's sophomore release, *Mr. A-Z*, on which pop culture inhabits the material almost as much as hooks. Austin's own reigning pop guitar man, Bob Schneider, opens this special theatre show.

— Matt Dentler

## Nervous Exits, Horse + Donkey, Red Leaves, Baby Robots

HOLE IN THE WALL, SATURDAY 14

On newsprint, this local bill sounds like some postapocalyptic variety show that will congeal your insides. There's distorto-pop from openers Baby Robots, whose recent cover of Pink Floyd's *The Piper at the Gates of Dawn* turned it into a dirty Southern drug party. Red Leaves finger paint an SOS to somber Eighties rock, while Horse + Donkey throw a steaming pile of aural excrement against the wall. Headliners Nervous Exits let the sun shine in with post-soul garage grit.

— Audra Schroeder

## James McMurtry & Strings Attached

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SATURDAY 14

It's little surprise James McMurtry figured prominently in the *Chronicle's* Top 10s for 2005. His *Childish Things* was a career watershed from start to finish, so a one-night-only collaboration with Will Taylor's Strings Attached promises to bring new life to the more atmospheric side of McMurtry's material. The idea of his trademark snarl ripping through the acoustically perfect confines of St. David's Episcopal may be worth the price of admission alone.

— Andy Langer



## George Harrison Tribute

CACTUS CAFE, TUESDAY 17

The Quiet Beatle's estate has been working overtime, issuing remastered packages on 2003's *All Things Must Pass* and last year's *Bangladesh* CD/DVD combo. In that same period, Harrison's solo catalog has been rebooted and given the all-star treatment via *Concert for George*. Ky Hote & Owl's second annual Austin tribute, featuring local scarabs Guy Forsyth, Oliver Rajamani, Slim Richey, Gretchen Phillips, Libby Kirkpatrick, and a host of others, promises more Wilbury-esque *Rubber Soul*. Request: *Time Bandits* closer "Dream Away." — Raoul Hernandez

## Ray Bonneville

CACTUS CAFE, WEDNESDAY 18

In the mold of J.J. Cale and Chris Smither, Ray Bonneville's brand of blues smolders in intoxicating ways on his latest release, *Roll It Down* (Red House), which has won raves for its visions of Americana, down-home guitar style, and understated backbeats. A fave at Kerrville, Bonneville is sure to turn the intimacy of the Cactus into his own front porch.

— Jim Caligiuri

## Los Lobos

LA ZONA ROSA, THURSDAY 19

Not only did Los Lobos come to the aid of Jon Dee Graham and family through their sold-out double bill with the True Believers at Antone's last October, they did it in grand style with a set list from 1985. Actually, the East L.A. juggernaut has run on nothing less across the decades — grand style — but their acoustic set here should provide the perfect excuse to *bolero* through early career staples like "Anselma" and anything from *La Pistola y el Corazón*. ¡Olé!

— Raoul Hernandez



## Eric Taylor CD Release

CACTUS CAFE, THURSDAY 19

Serious fans of singer-songwriters will agree that a new album of songs from Eric Taylor, his first in five years, is surely something to celebrate. This party for newly released *The Great Divide* (Blue Ruby) is likely to be as special as the new disc is. Taylor, sounding remarkably renewed, demonstrates rare intensity matched with a combination of wordplay and melody that again confirms his stature as one of Texas' master songsmiths.

— Jim Caligiuri

## IN-STORES

Friday: **AUX** CD release, End of an Ear, 6pm

Saturday: **ECFA**, **Brekekekexkexkexkoaxkoax**, End of an Ear, 7pm; **Scarey Mondelo**, **I.R.D.**, **Lint**, Snake Eyes Vinyl, 7pm

Sunday: **Rubber Robot**, **La Snacks**, **Transmography**, Snake Eyes Vinyl, 5pm

## Soundcheck BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

### LARRY GATLIN

**One World, Friday 13**

The Gatlin Brother is a little bit country, a little bit folkie.

**DIXIE WITCH, LIONS, TIA CARRERA, FULL STRIDE**

**Emo's, Friday 13**

Hey, you got metal in my stoner jam.

**FOR THOSE WHO KNOW**

**Beerland, Saturday 14**

Shoegaze gets four on the floor.

**DARDEN SMITH**

**Cactus Cafe, Saturday 14**

Austin's rhyming Simon lands in a *Field of Crows*.

**DAS VIVIAN MAEDCHEN, GRINDING WHEEL**

**Austin Music Co-op, Sunday 15**

ECFA's monthly Creative Music Series pulls out another free-jazz assault.

### Brothers & Sisters



**TEXAS OLD TIME FIDDLERS JAM**

**Artz Rib House, Tuesday 17**

Whip out the moonshine and get your fiddle on.

**FACUNDO'S NIGHT OUT**

**Flamingo Cantina, Wednesday 18**

With Funk Brasil and Annabella.

**JADE DAY**

**Flamingo Cantina, Thursday 19**

Local singer-songwriter channels Nick Drake with David Newbould and Molly Venter.

**KNIFE IN THE WATER, THE BLACK, BROTHERS & SISTERS**

**Stubb's, Thursday 19**

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12:30AM **HONKY**

11:15PM  
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10PM  
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TUES. JAN. 17  
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11PM TONI PRICE + DOAK SHORT TYRANT OF TX FUNK  
BARFIELD

WED. JAN. 18  
HAPPY HOUR  
12AM GARY CLARK JR. JAMES McMURTRY

10PM JON DEE GRAHAM  
THURS. JAN. 19  
HAPPY HOUR KENNETH BRIAN W.C. HANDY AWARD WINNER  
11PM BETTYE LAVETTE

10PM Eve and the Exiles

FRIDAY JAN. 20  
HAPPY HOUR TBA  
11PM MARRAH

9:30PM DAMNATIONS

SAT. JAN. 21  
MATINEE 3-7PM  
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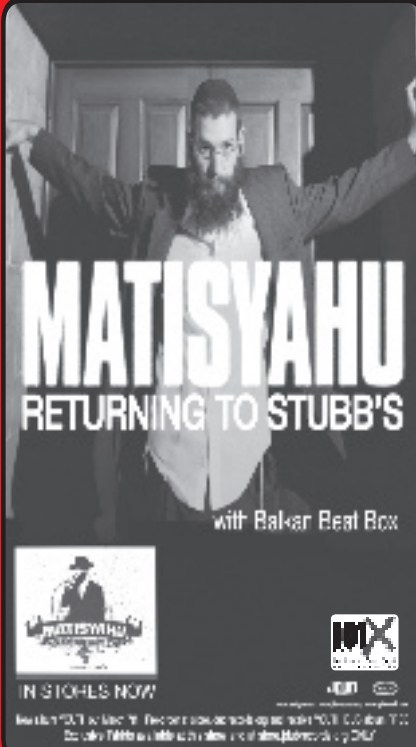
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**Sayanara Tiger**, Redrum



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**Thur ★ Jan 19** 8:30pm  
cd release! **ERIC TAYLOR**

**Fri ★ Jan 20** 8:30pm **MICHAEL SHAY**  
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**Sat ★ Jan 21** **SHAKE RUSSELL**  
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<b>2/7 ★ LIAM O'MAONLAÍ</b>	<b>2/18 ★ ELIZA GILKYSON</b>
<b>OF HOT HOUSE FLOWERS</b>	<b>2/23 ★ HAPA</b>
<b>2/8 ★ TOMMY EMMANUEL</b>	<b>2/25 ★ TERRI HENDRIX</b>
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the door & all shows @ 9pm unless otherwise  
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www.utexas.edu/student/txunion/ae/cactus

**Saxon Pub**  
1320 South Lamar 448-2552  
www.thesaxonpub.com

**Thurs. Jan. 12**  
**Albert & Gage** 8pm  
CD RELEASE PARTY  
**GEORGE DEVORE** 11:00pm  
HHr. The Chevelles 6pm; No Cover

**Fri. Jan. 13**  
8pm **Stephen** 11pm  
**HAYES BRUTON**  
CARLL HHr. The Regulars  
6pm; No Cover

**Sat. Jan. 14**  
11pm **GUY**  
**FORSYTH** 8pm **Bonnie**  
Bishop

**Sun. Jan. 15**  
**The Resentments** 7pm  
w/ Stephen Bruton, Scrappy Jud Newcomb,  
Bruce Hughes, Jon Dee Graham & John Chipman  
10:30pm **Walter** **Robert** 12am  
Tragert Socia

**Mon. Jan. 16**  
8:30pm **BOB**  
**SCHNEIDER'S**  
**LONELYLAND** 7pm Matt The Electrician  
11pm Mother Truckers

**Tues. Jan. 17**  
9pm **Asylum**  
**Street** w/ Guy Forsyth  
**Spankers** & Stanley Smith  
Will 11:30pm  
Sexton Nevada Newman 8pm  
HHr. Denim 6pm

**Wed. Jan. 18**  
**The Dime**  
**Store** HHr. Pauline  
**Poets** Reese 6pm  
11:30pm 8pm  
**MONTE**  
**MONTGOMERY**

**COMING TO THE SAXON:**  
1/20 - Charlie Sexton & Shannon McNally  
1/21 - South Austin Jug Band w/ Warren Hood  
2/03 - Miss Lavelle White

FROM TEXAS' OLDEST  
INDEPENDENT BREWERY

**Shiner**

**SPOETZL**

**SHINER TOP TEN  
TEXAS ARTISTS**

**1) JAMES McMURTRY**  
Childish Things

**2) ELIZA GILKYSON**  
Paradise Hotel

**3) SPOON**  
Gimme Fiction

**4) VARIOUS ARTISTS**  
KGSR Vol. 13

**5) ROBERT EARL KEEN**  
What I Really Mean

**6) GREENCARDS**  
Weather & Water

**7) PATTY GRIFFIN**  
Impossible Dream

**8) DELBERT McCLINTON**  
Cost of Living

**9) TOWNES VAN ZANDT**  
Private Concert

**10) HURTS TO PURR**  
Hurts to Purr

**WELCOME TO**  
**Shiner**

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NO COVER  
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BEFORE 11PM**

**FRIDAY 1/13**  
**FLAVOR  
CONDUCTORS**

**SATURDAY 1/14**  
**AMERICAN  
SIDESHOW**  
@12

**BUILDING G**  
@10

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT  
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BEFORE 9PM

**WEDNESDAY 1/18 • 9PM**  
**SOUTH  
AUSTIN  
JUG BAND**

**WEDNESDAY 1/25 • 9PM**  
**THE  
DERAILERS**

**WEDNESDAY 2/1 • 9PM**  
**HAYES  
CARLL**

**WEDNESDAY 2/8 • 9PM**  
**BASTARD  
SONS OF  
JOHNNY  
CASH**

**WEDNESDAY 2/15 • 9PM**  
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# RINGSIDE AT SULLIVAN'S PRESENTS

steakhouse

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

## KEVIN AHART

8PM-12AM NO COVER



SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

## KELLY DOZE

8PM-12AM NO COVER

300 COLORADO ST.

495-6504

**AMY COOK**

with guests  
**MICHAEL KINGCAID & JOSHUA BINGAMAN**

**SATURDAY JANUARY 14**  
9pm - MIDNITE  
on 5th St., 2 bllks east of I-35

**progress**  
c o f f e e

### club listings ◀◀ FROM FRIDAY

**ARTURO'S UNDERGROUND** CAFE gfire (7:00)  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Jerry Sires Band (7:30)  
**AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR** Acoustic Happy Hour (6:00)  
**BECK'S ON CONGRESS** Parker Worsham  
**BEERLAND** Snake Trap, Me Infecto, Megazilla, Gorch Fock (9:30)  
**BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega (10:00)  
**'BOUT TIME** DJ Kim Hicks  
**BRENTWOOD TAVERN** Craig Kotfas  
**BROKEN SPOKE** Alvin Crow  
**BROWN BAR** DJ Gray, Late Night w/ mr.ripley (9:00)  
**CACTUS CAFE** Monte Montgomery  
**CAFE CAFFEINE** Southpaw Jones  
**CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke  
**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke  
**CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Kentucky Shade  
**CEDAR STREET** Shawn Phillips (6:00), The Spazmatics (9:30)  
**CHEATHAM STREET** WAREHOUSE Ryan Turner  
**CIPOLLINA** Cienfuegos  
**CLUB ONE 15** Blend Fridays w/ DJ Inverse, DJ Casanova  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** The Blues Specialists (6:30), Scott H. Biram, the Weary Boys, Honky (10:00)  
**COOL RIVER CAFE** Kent Mayhew, the Sophisticates (6:45)  
**DAN MCKLUSKY'S** Bobby Doyle (7:00)  
**THE DIRTY DOG** Lucky 13th Party w/ Bright Shadow, Rain Sliver, Primm  
**DONN'S DEPOT** Donn & the Station Masters  
**THE DRISKILL** Kirk Hale, Suzi Stern, George Oldziej (6:00)  
**EGO'S** 19th Street Red, Jane Bond, Rick Broussard's 2 Hoots & a Holler (9:00)  
**EL SOL Y LA LUNA** Mary Welch y los Curanderos (7:30)  
**ELEMENT** DJ 2DQ (10:00)  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Andrew Venson & Friends, Tenor Madness w/ Elias Hanslanger, Alex Coke  
**EMO'S** Full Stride, Tia Carrera, Lions, Dixie Witch  
**END OF AN EAR** AUX CD Release (7:00)  
**EVANGELINE CAFE** LZ Love (10:00)  
**FADO** Patrick Fleming  
**FLAMINGO CANTINA** Misprint Magazine Party w/ Bob White and the F Electrics, Basic, the Handsome Charlies, Valhalla

**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Gretchen Phillips, Spot (9:00)  
**FREDA'S SEAFOOD GRILLE** Jazzopoly (7:00)  
**GENUINE JOE COFFEEHOUSE** Open Mic (7:30)  
**GIDDY UPS** Marina  
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** The Moonhangers  
**GRUENE HALL** Seth James (8:30)  
**GUERO'S TACO BAR** Sisters Morales  
**HANOVER'S** Bruce Smith, Acoustika (7:30)  
**HEADHUNTERS** Vic Ramirez & Friends, Casey Just & the Psychophoniks, So I Had to Shoot Him, Black Irish, Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings  
**HILL'S CAFE** Bobby Pounds  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Amanda Cunningham, the Texas Sapphires, the Damnations (8:00)  
**HOLE IN THE WALL ROUND ROCK** Byrd & Street (7:00)  
**IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE** Scott Wilson (7:00)  
**JC'S STEAKHOUSE** Adam Donmoyer  
**JOVITA'S** Harry Bodine, Thrift Store Cowboys, Drew Landry & the Dirty Cajuns (6:00)  
**LA CABANA GRILL** Blues Jam w/ Li'l Steph (8:00)  
**LA PALAPA** Karaoke w/ Big Jim  
**MARIA'S TACO XPRESS** Leeann Atherton (7:00)  
**MCCORMICK & SCHMICK'S** Julia LaShae Trio (7:30)  
**MOONRIVER** The Time Bombs  
**MR. NATURAL** Will Dunlap (7:00)  
**NUNO'S ON SIXTH** The Texcellorators (7:30)  
**ONE WORLD THEATRE** Larry Gatlin (7:00, 9:30)  
**OSLO** DJ Mike Swing, DJ Gibby (10:00)  
**PAGGI HOUSE** DJ Skot Kees (9:00)  
**THE PALLADIUM** Vibe  
**PLUSH** Micasa Tu Casa w/ Tarek, MC Flint (10:00)  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Brooks Alan Brannon, Pauline Reese  
**QUACK'S 43RD STREET BAKERY** Youth Media Collective Benefit w/ Kate Kelly, Jordan Buckley (7:00)  
**RACK DADDY'S** Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)  
**RAGGEDY ANNE'S** Karaoke  
**RED FEZ** An Arabian Night w/ DJ Gibby  
**REDRUM** Buried In Fire, Indisgust, War Within, Vesperian Sorrow  
**REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB** Denia Ridley & Stephen Fulton w/ Marc Devine Trio (8:30)  
**RENAISSANCE HOTEL** Rich Demarco (6:00)

**RILEY'S TAVERN** Sunny Sweeney  
**RINGERS SPORTS LOUNGE** Watchband (9:30)  
**RUTA MAYA** Urbano Tango (9:00)  
**SABA BLUE WATER CAFE** DJ Rhythmic (10:00)  
**SAXON PUB** The Regulars (6:30), Hayes Carll, Stephen Bruton (8:00)  
**SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL** Jawbreaker  
**STUBB'S BAR-B-Q** Heard on Veronica Mars Night w/ the Rite Flyers, Daylight Titans, Fire Marshals of Bethlehem, David Garza  
**TAMBALEO** The Flying Club (7:00)  
**TAYLOR SPJST HALL** Czech Melody Masters (7:30)  
**TEXAS BAR & GRILL** Knee Deep  
**TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL** Susanna Sharp & Catavento (7:30)  
**TROPHY'S** The Golden Apples, leche de hombre, Youngmond Grand, Crawling With Kings  
**TROUBADOUR SALOON** Slaptrash, Vagrant Truth, Both Feet  
**VUE** Mumbojumbo w/ DJ Supafly, Nathan Castle, Mike C.  
**THE WATER TANK** Karaoke w/ R.J.  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** The Deweys  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH** Lee Edwards

## Sat 1 4

**219 WEST** DJ Trace  
**311 CLUB** Gilson Viator, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)  
**ALICE'S RESTAURANT** Abi Tapia, Saw Dogs, Slaves of Utopia  
**ANTONE'S** The Addictions, Butcherwhite, the Action Is, Velvet Brick CD Release (9:00)  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Danny Santos y los Bluegrass Vatos  
**BABY ACAPULCO'S 290** Cienfuegos (8:00)  
**BARCELONA** DJ Berlin  
**BECK'S ON CONGRESS** Liz Pappademas  
**BEERLAND** Ink, the Interest Kills, Get Him Kill Him, For Those Who Know  
**BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega (10:00)  
**BOOTS** Steelbeam (9:30)  
**'BOUT TIME** DJ Kim Hicks (9:00)  
**BRENTWOOD TAVERN** Jon Emery  
**BROKEN SPOKE** Ricky Calmbach  
**BROWN BAR** mr.ripley (10:00)  
**CACTUS CAFE** Darden Smith  
**CAFE CAFFEINE** Jean Synodinos  
**CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke  
**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke

MR. A-Z  
**JASON MRAZ**  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14  
With Bob Schneider

ROCK AND ROLL'S FOUNDING FATHER  
**CHUCK BERRY**  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

GRAMMY AWARD WINNING  
**OZOMATLI**  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

30TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR  
**DAVID GRISMAN QUINTET**  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4  
With The Greencards

THE 80TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION TOUR  
**B.B. KING**  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

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VMG SHOWCASE  
featuring  
**VALLEJO**  
and **DIRTY WORMZ**  
TRUTH FOR LEO • TYRONE VAUGHAN  
also a special performance by  
**MC OVERLORD**

**WEDNESDAY JANUARY 18TH**  
**BOB SCHNEIDER'S**  
**TEXAS**  
*Bluegrass Massacre*

**THURSDAY JAN 19TH & FRIDAY JAN 20TH**  
**STORYVILLE**  
with **GARY CLARK Jr.**

**SATURDAY JANUARY 14TH**  
**VELVET BRICK CD Release**  
THE ACTION IS • BUTCHERWHITE • THE ADDICTION

**THURSDAY JANUARY 26TH**  
**SOULHAT**

**EVERY MONDAY!**  
EARLY SHOW  
**MONTE MONTGOMERY**  
with **KUDZU KARNIVAL**  
*The Blue Monday Band* 1PM

**EVERY TUESDAY!**  
EARLY SHOW • 8PM  
**DOUBLE TROUBLE TUESDAY**  
featuring **CHRIS LAYTON & TOMMY SHANNON**  
MAIFORD MULLIGAN • MIKE KILLER • DENNY FREEMAN  
LATER THAT TUESDAY *Jaymie Graves Band* 1PM

**SATURDAY JANUARY 21ST**  
**RAUL MALO**  
with **PATRICIA VONNE**  
*from the Mavericks*

**Coming Up...**  
2/2 - IAN MOORE  
2/3 - SCABS  
2/4 - BOB SCHNEIDER  
2/10 - MARCIA BALL

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THURSDAY, 1/12 OPENING NIGHT PARTY  
FLAMETRICK SUBS  
SHINOLA•TEXAS SAPPHIRES

FRIDAY, 1/13  
DIXIE WITCH•LIONS  
TIA CARRERA•TEABAG

SATURDAY, 1/14 • 9PM  
COMPLETE CONTROL  
THE ENDS•PINK SWORDS  
BLACKSTAR BRIGADE•SPARKLE MOTION

SUNDAY, 1/15  
AMPLIFIED HEAT  
PUDDING•BLACK EARTH•RAY CASHMAN

Monday, Jan 16 closed

Tuesday, Jan 17  
JUST ANNOUNCED  
RIVERBOAT GAMBLERS  
GOOD TIMES CRISIS BAND  
CRASH GALLERY

Wednesday, Jan 18 closed

Thursday, Jan 19  
CRUISERWEIGHT  
WHOLE WHEAT BREAD•THE KNOW HOW  
SEAN NEIL (OF DYNAMITE BOY)

Friday, Jan 20  
GI RIGHTS BENEFIT SHOW  
FOR THOSE WHO KNOW UGLY BEATS  
FACELESS WEREWOLVES • TBA

Saturday, Jan 21



CENTRO-MATIC  
MICAH P. HINSON  
PLEASANT GROVE  
TICKETS AVAILABLE

Sunday, Jan 22  
ROLLS ROYCE  
TRANSGRESSORS  
JOHN WESLEY COLEMAN  
FROM GOLDEN BOYS

COMING SOON

• 2/4 PEARLS AND BRASS • 2/8 BRUJERIA (RUMORED MEMBERS OF NAPALM DEATH, CARCASS) / CEPHALIC CARNAGE\* • 2/9 • ARMOR FOR SLEEP (EARLY) / OF MONTREAL (LATE)\* • 2/10 GHOSTLAND OBSERVATORY • 2/11 THE SWORD / EARLY MAN\* • 2/15 THE HOLD STEADY\* • 2/18 NADA SURF (OUT)\* / JUICER (IN) • 2/19 NO USE FOR A NAME\* • 2/20 SKELETON KEY\* • 2/22 THE HONORARY TITLE (EARLY) / BROTHERS & SISTERS / PETER & THE WOLF (LATE) • 2/24 P.O.S. • 2/25 THE REDNECK MANIFESTO (OUT) / SMOKING POPES (IN)\* • 2/28 THE WEDDING PRESENT\* • 3/2 REGGIE AND THE FULL EFFECT\* • 3/3 ARIEL PINK\* • 3/4 ELECTRIC 6\* • 3/7 MOTION CITY SOUNDTRAK (OUT)\* / THE BLEED (IN)\* • 3/10 DROPKICK MURPHYS\* • 3/11 MATES OF STATE\* • 3/13 TAKE ACTION TOUR: MATCHBOOK ROMANCE\* • 3/29 ANTI-FLAG\*

\*TICKETS ARE SOLD ONLINE THROUGH [www.emosaustin.com](http://www.emosaustin.com) OR YOU CAN BUY THEM AT WATERLOO RECORDS

Monday, Jan 23 - 9PM

  
Bleed Black Wings Tour 2006  
high on fire  
THE BRONX  
BIG BUSINESS  
BURIED INSIDE

Tuesday, Jan 24  
SOME GIRLS•WARWOLF  
ME INFECTO • IRON AGE  
TICKETS AVAILABLE

Wednesday, Jan 25  
young god records presents:  
AKRON/FAMILY•MI AND L'AU  
plus special guests SHEARWATER  
TICKETS AVAILABLE

Thursday, Jan 26  
CLAP! CLAP! THE LEMURS  
POMPEII THE UNBEARABLES

Friday, Jan 27  
EXPLOSIONS IN THE SKY  
OCTOPUS PROJECT•A HAWK AND A HACKSAW  
TICKETS AVAILABLE

Saturday, Jan 28  
GREYSKUL  
(RHYESAYERS, FEAT. ONRY OZZBOURN W. DJ WICKED)  
BARFLY•COLEY COLE•DIM MAK  
TICKETS AVAILABLE

Sunday, Jan 29  
LIMBECK  
CRITERIA (SADDLE CREEK)•BELHOME  
THE ALWAYS ALREADY•TICKETS AVAILABLE

Monday, Jan 30 closed

Tuesday, Jan 31  
GHETTO PRINCESS•SECULAR END  
JERM POLLETT & THE TOTAL FOXES  
TOMORROW'S TOO LATE

Wednesday, Feb 1  
CORD  
101X PRESENTS  
HUNDRED YEAR STORM•VISITORS  
9:30PM ONLY \$1

Thursday, Feb 2  
HANDSOME CHARLIES LIVING BLUE  
TAH-DAHS•DAYLIGHT TITANS

Friday, Feb 3  
YUPPIE PRICKS•TBA

calendar > MOVIES > MUSIC

club listings << FROM SATURDAY

CEDAR STREET The Atlantics (9:30)  
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Texas Renegade CLUB ONE 15 Uptown Saturday w/ Cut Creator (9:30)  
CONTINENTAL CLUB Whit Smith & His Hot Jazz Caravan (3:00), Waploitation!, the El Michaels Affair (10:00)  
COOL RIVER CAFE Kent Mayhew, Texas Unlimited Band (6:45)  
DAN MCKLUSKY'S Mac Bynum (7:30)  
THE DIRTY DOG Before Dawn, Lust Murderbox, Dax  
THE DRISKILL Pat Griffin, Suzi Stern, George Oldziey (6:00)  
EGO'S Neil Kassanoff, Crawling With Kings, Leche de Hombre, Youngmond Grand (9:00)  
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Chinampa (7:30)  
ELEMENT DJ 2DQ (10:00)  
ELEPHANT ROOM Ephraim Owens Quintet  
ELYSIUM Haven w/ DJ Void, the Gothfather  
EMO'S SparkleMotion, Blackstar Brigade, Pink Swords, the Ends, Complete Control  
END OF AN EAR Brekekekekeke kekekoaxkoax, ECFA (7:00)  
FADÓ DJ Gerry, The Blaggards (10:00)  
FLAMINGO CANTINA TumbaTeo, Grimy Styles  
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Bellevue, Five Times August (9:00)  
GALAXY CAFE Paul White Quartet (7:00)  
GENUINE JOE COFFEEHOUSE Jessica and Keith Bray (8:00)  
GIDDY UPS Sam Bentley  
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Karen Poston (9:00)  
GRUENE HALL Elana Fremerman & the Hazard Boys w/ Luke Hill & Beau Sample (1:00), Reckless Kelly (9:00)  
GUERO'S TACO BAR Killa Hawgs  
HANOVER'S Bent Eye Bolt, Draught, Headlight Blind (10:00)  
HEADHUNTERS The Dickens, Threat of Tomorrow, Devola, Teabag  
HILL'S CAFE Deek Moore  
HOLE IN THE WALL Baby Robots, Red Leaves, Horse + Donkey (9:00)  
IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE Oh, Boring Me (7:00)  
JOVITA'S Jayson Bales & the Revival, Salim Nourallah & the Noise, I Love Math, the Chemistry Set, Travis Hopper & JD Whittenburg (6:00)  
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim  
LUCKY LOUNGE Sounds Under Radio (8:00)  
MOONRIVER 8 Ball Down  
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Java Jazz (6:30)  
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Trent Turner (7:30)  
OSLO Cassanova (10:00)

PARAMOUNT THEATRE Bob Schneider, Jason Mraz  
PLUSH Turntable Manners w/ DJ Tats, Dirty Harry  
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Jimmy Lee Jones  
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Chili Cold Blood  
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Billy D.  
RED FEZ Buddy Quaid Band (8:30), DJ Kurv (10:30)  
REDRUM Cynical Vision, Lampshade Serenade, Distempered, Diddy  
RED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Just Released (8:30)  
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Rich Demarco (6:00)  
RILEY'S TAVERN Heybale!  
ROCKIN' TOMATO Jason Freed (8:00)  
RUTA MAYA Grass, Drop Trio, Audio Flava (9:00)  
SABA BLUE WATER CAFE DJ Sugar (10:00)  
THE SALT LICK Byrd & Street (6:00)  
SATELLITE CAFE Scott Hawley (8:00)  
SAXON PUB Bonnie Bishop, Guy Forsyth (8:00)  
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Nervous  
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Dirty Cajuns (8:30)  
SHOOTING STARS COFFEE Obataallah (1:00)  
SNAKE EYES VINYL Lint, I.R.D., Scarey Mondelo (7:00)  
ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH Will Taylor & Strings Attached w/James McMurtry (7:30)  
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Magnolia  
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30)  
TROPHY'S X-Rated Presents, Dirty Hearts, drama queen, Suns of Sultan

James McMurtry in Church?

Yes, although it's hard to believe, it's nothing new for this truly "Austintatious" music series. It's the same series that's featured live performances of these songs in its beautiful stainglass sanctuary:

Ray Wylie Hubbard performing "Up Against the Wall"  
Chip Taylor doing "Wild Thing"  
Eliza Gilkyson's "Man of God"

Still curious? Checkout our website  
[StringsAttached.org](http://StringsAttached.org)




Sat. Jan. 12 10pm  
477.9837

TROUBADOUR SALOON Texas Independent Musicians' Showcase (6:00), Permakids (10:00)  
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ R.J.  
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Nicole Gilbert

Sun 15

219 WEST DJ Trace  
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Slaves of Utopia, Marshall Ford Swing Band, Grassy Knoll Boys  
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Bert Rivera  
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & Bar Jazz Brunch (11:00 am)  
AUSTIN MUSIC CO-OP Grinding Wheel, Das Vivian Maedchen  
B.B. ROVERS Jollyville City Limits Open Mic w/ Billy Goerd; Austin Songwriters Group Open Mic w/ Polk Shelton (7:00)  
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tune Session (8:00)  
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Idgy Vaughn  
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)  
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Margaret Miller  
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke  
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke  
CEDAR STREET Les & the Funk Mob (9:30)  
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Island, Texas  
CONTINENTAL CLUB Heybale! w/ Redd Volkaert & Earl Poole Ball (11:00)  
COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (5:00)  
ELEPHANT ROOM Kris Kimura Quintet (9:30)  
ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice  
EMO'S Ray Cashman, Pudding, Amplified Heat  
FADÓ Emerald Exiles, Prize Mic  
FLAMINGO CANTINA Steve Carter Medical Benefit w/ Lee Duffy, Sarah Elizabeth Campbell, Michael Austin, Karen Mal, Erik Hokkannen, Danny Britt, Shakespeare & Shakey Bean, Malford Milligan, Michael Ballew, Sara Hickman, Albert & Gage, Floyd Domino, Jon Emery, Freddy Powers, Sonny Throckmorton, Stop the Truck, Mau Mau Chaplains, Cyril Neville Caesar Brothers' Funkbox (5:00)  
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Mark Ambrose, Sick Science Project (8:00)  
FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam w/ Walter Higgs (9:00)  
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Redd Volkaert (4:00)  
GREEN PASTURES Jacques Vilmain (11:00 am)  
GRUENE HALL Adam Carroll & Scrappy Jud Newcomb (noon), The Weary Boys, Eric Hanke & Doug Hudson (4:00)  
GUERO'S TACO BAR Gulf Coast Playboys

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**ACUSTYKA** 10PM

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SUNDAY 1/15 **FREE POKER** 5PM & 8PM

TUESDAY 1/17 **PETE BENZ & FRIENDS** 7:30PM

WEDNESDAY 1/18 **MOVIN' TARGET** 7PM  
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MON. 1/16 @ 8PM  
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**DIRTY WORMZ** 11pm

**LYRONE VAUGHAN** 10pm

**TRUTH FOR LEO** 8pm

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### club listings ◀◀ FROM SUNDAY

**HEADHUNTERS** Crapulence, Pretty Pretty, the Quick & the Dead, the Tombstones, Map of Hawaii, Hit by a Car, Condemned Unit  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Rebecca's Ragtime Revue, Black Joe Lewis & the Cool Breeze (9:00)  
**JO'S HOT COFFEE** Sinner's Brunch: Tina Rose & the Jo's House Band (12:30)  
**JOVITA'S** Jo Carol Pierce, Pop Stars (2:30)  
**LA ZONA ROSA** The Texas Observer Rabbie Rouser Roundup w/ Carolyn Wonderland, Grupo Fantasma, Marcia Ball (7:00)  
**LUCKY LOUNGE** Hunki Dori (10:00)  
**MANUEL'S** Boomer Norman (11:30 am)  
**MARIA'S TACO XPRESS** Gospel Project, Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers (10:30 am)  
**MOONRIVER** Dixon Younger (3:00), Karaoke (9:30)  
**MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB** Irish Brunch w/ the Tea Merchants (noon), Jennifer Ellen Cook & Ernie C. Ernst (9:00), Karaoke w/ Edie (9:00)

**MUNCHIES** The XProphets (noon)  
**NUOVO LEON** Mariachi Relampago (1:00)  
**NUNO'S ON SIXTH** Open Mic w/ Dewayne Davis (9:00)  
**NUTTY BROWN CAFE** Java Jazz  
**THE OFFICE LOUNGE** Karaoke w/ Mrs. K  
**PAGGI HOUSE** Chicken George (11:00 am)  
**PLUSH** Car Stereo Wars  
**POODLE DOG LOUNGE** Sunny Sweeney (8:30)  
**RACK DADDY'S** Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)  
**RAIN** Hedda Layne (5:30)  
**RED FEZ** DJ Kurupt  
**REDRUM** Troy Dillinger, Cap City Comics, [adult swim]  
**RILEY'S TAVERN** Open Mic  
**ROADHOUSE** Open Mic w/ Josh  
**RUTA MAYA** Under 21 City Wide Poetry Slam Off (6:00)  
**SAXON PUB** The Resentments, Walter Tragert, Jay Thomas (7:00)  
**SHENANIGANS** Karaoke w/ Billy D  
**SNAKE EYES VINYL** Transmography, La Snacks, Rubber Robot (5:00)

**THE CROSSINGS** Sunday Singing at Seven w/ Walt & Tina Wilkins (7:00)  
**TRIPLE CROWN** Open Mic w/ Molly Hayes (9:00)  
**THE WATER TANK** Open Mic w/ Patrick

## Mon 16

**ANTONE'S** Rob Roy Parnell (6:00); Mark Goodwin & MG3 (9:00), Roscoe, Riley Osbourne, Derek O'Brien, Frosty (11:00), Kudzu, Karnival, Monte Montgomery  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned  
**'BOUT TIME** Karaoke w/ Margaret Miller  
**CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke  
**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke  
**CEDAR STREET** Kevin Ahart (6:00), Jukebox Heroes (9:30)  
**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** South Austin Jug Band  
**CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO** Rich Demarco (6:30)  
**CLUB ONE 15** Groove Attack w/ DJ Skorch D. (9:30)



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DJ Gibby 11:00-2:00

sat Buddy Quaid Band 8:30-10:30  
DJ Kurv 10:30-2:00

sun DJ Kurupt 10:00-2:00

mon DJ In/Verse with DJ Tats  
motown and funk 10:00-2:00

tues TWIST UP DJ Manny 10:00-2:00

wed SATISFACTION  
DJ Shane 10:00-2:00

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**LOS LOBOS**



SAT JAN 21 DOORS 8 • SHOW 9  
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SOULHAT



MON JAN 23 DOORS 7 • SHOW 7:30  
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**FRIDAY, JANUARY 13**  
**CHAMBER 36 REUNION**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 14**  
**AUSTIN ELECTRONIC MUSIC ASSOCIATION AND EVERYDAY JUNGLE PRESENTS CLARITY A DJ SHOWCASE**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 15**  
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**club listings << FROM MONDAY**

**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Paris '49 (6:30), Elana James & her Hot-Hot Trio w/ Cindy Cashdollar (10:00)

**DONN'S DEPOT** Chris Gage

**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Bobby Doyle (7:00)

**EGO'S** Crystal Flavola (9:00)

**ELEPHANT ROOM** Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)

**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Sick Science Project w/ Green Mountain Grass (8:00)

**FRIENDS** Eric Tessmer (7:00)

**GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL** Jon Emery & His Political Friends

**HEADHUNTERS** Charlie, 20-Eyed Dragon, Me Infecto, Halo Rings Her Head, Bricks ATX, Elvis on Speed

**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE** Open Mic Poetry & Reading (7:00)

**JACK'S BACKYARD** Karaoke w/ Stars Across Texas (9:00)

**LONGBRANCH INN** Singer-Songwriter Night

**LUCKY LOUNGE** 54 Seconds (10:00)

**MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS** John Wilson, Je Renee, Carl Koonce

**NASTY'S** Blow Pop w/ DJ Mel, Jahmighty

**NUNO'S ON SIXTH** Butt Rockin' Blue Monday w/ the Texcellorators, Li'l Steph (9:00)

**PARDNERS** Karaoke

**POODLE DOG LOUNGE** The Stepsiders (9:30)

**RED FEZ** Motown w/ DJ Inverse

**REDRUM** Karaoke w/ Edie

**REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB** Marc Devine (6:00)

**RILEY'S TAVERN** Meatwood

**RUTA MAYA** Carolyn Wonderland (8:30)

**SAXON PUB** Matty the Electrician, Bob Schneider's Lonelyland, Mother Truckers (7:00)

**SPEAKEASY** James Gossett (9:30)

**THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ** Elizabeth McQueen & Jason Roberts

**TROPHY'S** The Meshbanes

**THE WATER TANK** Acoustic Jam Open Mic w/ Tony Fant

**Tue 1 7**

**1920S CLUB** Mac Bynum (7:00)

**219 WEST** Crucial Prophet

**311 CLUB** 3-Piece Special (8:30)

**ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR** Chopper (3:30)

**ANTONE'S** Double Trouble Tuesday w/ Chris Layton, Tommy Shannon, Malford Milligan & Friends

**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Texas Olde Time Fiddlers Jam (6:00)

**B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Open Mic (7:30)

**BASTROP SENIOR CENTER** The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)

**BECK'S ON CONGRESS** Chad Tracy w/ Jane Bond

**BROWN BAR** DJ Gray (9:00)

**CACTUS CAFE** George Harrison Tribute Salute w/ Ky Hote & Owl, Gretchen Phillips, Slim Richey, Oliver Rajamani, Guy Forsyth (8:00)

**CAFE CAFFEINE** Open Mic w/ Amanda Cunningham

**CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke

**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke

**CEDAR STREET** Super Fantastic Duo w/ Seela Green (6:00), Trent Durham Band (9:30)

**CHARLIE'S** Margaret Wright

**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Monte Montgomery "Plugged" (9:30)

**CLUB ONE 15** Reggae Night (9:30)

**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Doak Short (5:30), Toni Price (6:30), Barfield (11:00)

**CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN** Open Mic w/ Bonnie & Blythe (9:00)

**THE DIRTY DOG** Eric Hargett's Open Jazz Jam

**DONN'S DEPOT** Donn & the Station Masters

**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Bobby Doyle (7:00)

**EGO'S** Duncan Walters, Gina Lee & the Brisket Boys (8:30)

**EL MERCADO'S MUSIC LOUNGE** "Writers Who Rock" Songwriters Night w/ Christine Young, Melissa Mullins (7:00)

**ELEPHANT ROOM** Stanley Smith (4:00), Jon Blondell Quartet (9:30)

**ELYSIUM** Sappho's Isle w/ DJ Amerykah & DJ Doja

**EMO'S** Crash Gallery, Good Times Crisis Band, Riverboat Gamblers

**EVANGELINE CAFE** Brennen Leigh, Gene Taylor (6:00)

**FADO** Tea Merchants (8:00)

**FIREHOUSE LOUNGE** Deep Sessions w/ DJ Toddy B

**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00)

**FRIENDS** Erin Jaimes & Her Bad Habits, Alan Haynes (7:30)

**GIDDY UPS** Mike Cross, Natalie Zoe, Gabby Brown

**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Billy Dee (9:00)

**R.J. AND THE GOSPEL PROJECT**  
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**FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 8PM**  
**DAMNATIONS**  
**TEXAS SAPPHIRES**  
**AMANDA CUNNINGHAM**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 9PM**  
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SAT., JAN. 14 **RICKY CALMBACH**

TUE., JAN. 17 **MARSHALL FORD SWING BOYS**  
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WED., JAN. 18 **DANE STERLING**

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Sun 1/15, 7pm  
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Mon 1/16, 7pm  
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Tue 1/17, 8pm  
Like Wildfire with Special Guests

Honky Tonk Wednesday 1/18, 8pm  
Lonesome Heroes, Lil' Captain Travis

Thu 1/19, 8pm  
The Artillery, Sayanara Tiger, The Strands

Fri 1/20  
Day Show 6pm  
Paul Green School of Rock Presents:  
Pink Floyd's The Wall

Night Show 10pm  
Chuck Loesch's Birthday Massacre, Day 1  
Hatchnetwork, Course of Ruin,  
Closedhandpromise, Numeric Plague, Demmo

Sat 1/21  
Day Show 6pm  
Paul Green School of Rock Presents:  
Pink Floyd's The Wall

Night Show 10pm  
Chuck Loesch's Birthday Massacre, Day 2  
Images of Violence, By Any Means Necessary,  
Neyra, Shrapnel, Six Post Hell

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LIVE MUSIC SCHEDULE

FRIDAY JAN 13 • 10PM  
**LZ LOVE** \$5 Cover  
FEATURING **CHARLIE PRICHARD**

TUESDAY JAN 17  
**BRENNEN LEIGH 6PM**  
**GENE TAYLOR 8PM**

WEDNESDAY JAN 18  
**COWBOY JOHNSON 6PM**

FRIDAY JAN 20 • 10PM  
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**THURSDAY Jan 12 - 10:30**  
**ERIC TESSMER BAND**

**FRIDAY Jan 13 - 10:30**  
**JOE RICHARDSON EXPRESS**

**SATURDAY Jan 14 - 10:30**  
**KIM & HER BLUES BOYS**  
Featuring Alan Haynes

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Th 12 King Tears 6pm  
Every Other Fate, Holding 1 10pm

Fr 13 RC Banks 6pm  
Fambly, Revolution by Night, Adlib 10pm

Sa 14 Scott Biram 10pm

Su 15 Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly or Nate

Mo 16 Eric Hisaw 6pm  
Smarty Pants - Trivia Contest 8pm

Tu 17 Jackson Parten 6pm  
Soul Food 10pm

We 18 Ray Cashman 6pm  
King Slim Blues 9pm

Th 19 Nathan Hamilton 6pm  
Word Association 10pm

Fr 20 Los Gallos 6pm  
The Early Tapes, Heroes, Kallisti Gold 9pm

Sa 21 Hognose, Super Heavy Goat Ass, Teabag 10pm

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➤ **JANUARY WHITE SALE!**

**\$2.00 Well drinks all month long!**

➤ **Tuesdays:**  
**Amateur strip night!**  
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➤ **Wednesdays & Fridays:**  
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# speakeasy

BOOK YOUR EVENTS NOW! **47-PARTY**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12 **STEVEN DOSTER & FRIENDS** 9:30PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13 **DYSFUNKSHUN JUNKSHUN** 9:30PM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14 **DYSFUNKSHUN JUNKSHUN** 9:30PM

MONDAY, JANUARY 16 **JAMES GOSSETT UNDER THE STARS** 9:30PM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17 **JAZZ NIGHT KKQ** 9:30PM NO COVER

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18 **LATIN WEDNESDAY THE BREW** 9:30PM  
**FREE SALSA LESSON @ 9PM**

412-D CONGRESS AVE. • 476-8017 (entrance in the alley) • [speakeasyaustin.com](http://speakeasyaustin.com)  
 GIRARD DIVERSIFIED INTEREST

to **BOOK** your party call **47-PARTY!**

**\$10 martinis & MANICURES every THURSDAY @ 5PM**

**2 for TUESDAYS!! 2 FOR 1 DINNERS ALL DAY TUESDAY**

**LIVE music with CADAQUES every wednesday night**

# LIGHT IT UP ON T4

terrace

412-D CONGRESS AVE ENTRANCE IN THE ALLEY @ SPEAKEASY CALL 47-PARTY FOR EVENTS A GIRARD DIVERSIFIED INTEREST

club listings << FROM TUESDAY

**GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL** Stop the Truck  
**GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL** Open Stage w/ Felix the Kid  
**HABANA CALLE 6** Trey Lanshe (8:00)  
**HANOVER'S** Pete Benz & Friends (7:30)  
**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE** Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Josh (8:00)  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Kacy Crowley, Tony Scalzo (9:00)  
**IT'S ITALIAN** "Frankly Singing" w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)  
**LA PALAPA** Avenue C  
**LUCKY LOUNGE** Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa, John Pointer (11:00)  
**MANHACA FIRE HALL KITCHEN** Acoustic Round Table w/ K'Cee (6:00)  
**THE OFFICE LOUNGE** Karaoke w/ Billy D  
**OSLO** Lucy's Wild w/ DJ Shane  
**PARDNERS** Open Mic w/ the Michael Petty Band (7:30)  
**PLUSH** Mentalnote  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Troubadillos  
**THE PUB** Karaoke w/ Justin  
**RED FEZ** Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:15)  
**RED'S SCOOT INN** Li'l Steph & the Chromatics  
**REDRUM** Like Wildfire  
**REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB** Denia Ridley w/ Marc Devine (6:30)  
**RHINOS & JOCKS ROUND ROCK** Karaoke w/ Mr. K.  
**ROADHOUSE** Karaoke w/ Dragon  
**ROMEO'S** Jacinta (6:30)  
**ROPER'S NIGHTCLUB** Open Mic  
**RUTA MAYA** Poetry, Music Open Mic (6:00)

**SAM'S TOWN POINT** Open Mic w/ Dewey Lyon & 70 Thru Selma (9:00)  
**SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM** Jim Ivy's Jinxstreet Band (7:00)  
**SHENANIGANS** Karaoke w/ Rae Rae  
**SHOAL CREEK SALOON** Gunhands (8:30)  
**SPEAKEASY KKQ** (9:30)  
**TAMBALEO** Rock & Roll Bingo (10:00)  
**TAVERN ON THE GRUENE** Songwriters Open Mic w/ Jerry Martin & Sam Sanchez (8:00)  
**TEXAS BAR & GRILL** Karaoke w/ Raquel  
**TROPHY'S** Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Jason Weems, Bill Davis  
**THE WATER TANK** Karaoke w/ RJ  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** Brian Kremer

**BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega (10:00)  
**BROKEN SPOKE** Dane Sterling  
**BROWN BAR** DJ Manny  
**CACTUS CAFE** Ray Bonneville  
**CAFE MUNDI** Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)  
**CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke  
**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke  
**CEDAR STREET** Trent & Dave (6:00), 80's Party w/ the Spazmatics (9:30)  
**CHAIN DRIVE** The Dickens  
**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle  
**CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO** Jacinta (7:00)  
**CIRCLE COUNTRY CLUB** Karaoke (8:00)  
**CLUB ONE 15** Way Back w/ Cut Creator (9:00)  
**COFFEE CREATOR** Je Renee, Cherilyn, John Wilson (8:30)  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gary Clark Jr. (6:30), Jon Dee Graham, James McMurtry (10:30)  
**CUBA LIBRE** Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)  
**CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN** Jam Night w/ Dennis Lee  
**THE DIRTY DOG** Joe Richardson Express  
**THE DRISKILL** Kirk Hale  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Bobby Doyle (7:00)  
**EGO'S** Austin Poetry Slam (7:30)  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Jazz Pharoahs (6:00)  
**ELYSIUM** Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice  
**EVANGELINE CAFE** Cowboy Johnson (6:00)  
**FADÓ** Pub Quiz w/ Johnny (9:00)  
**FLAMINGO CANTINA** Facundo's Night Out w/ Annabella, Funk Brasil  
**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Josh Mercer, Kevin Carroll (8:00)  
**FRIENDS** John McVey (10:30)

## Wed 18

**1920S CLUB** Liz Morphis (8:30)  
**219 WEST** The SG Project (7:00)  
**311 CLUB** Devren (8:30)  
**ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR** Los Texas Wranglers (3:30)  
**ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH** Lisa Hayes (1:00)  
**AGAVE** Eric Tessmer (9:00)  
**ANTONE'S** Bob Schneider's Texas Bluegrass Massacre  
**APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD BAR & GRILL** Marty Linville  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Shelley King, Carolyn Wonderland  
**AUSTIN MUSIC CO-OP** Laydeez Open Mic  
**AUSTIN'S PIZZA** Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)  
**BECK'S ON CONGRESS** Taylor Austin  
**BEERLAND** Bad Rackets, Dirty Tactics, the Sweethearts (9:30)

# FIRST ANNIVERSARY PARTY

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup> 2006

**DOORS OPEN 8:00PM**

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THU 1/12 > HARD KNOCKS & THE HEADS, PETER ELLIOT & THE SELLOUTS, TOUGH SHIT ELLIOT (Patio), THE GUESTS, JAMIE MEYER (Sweden) FRI 1/13 > CHAD THOMAS & THE CRAZY KINGS, BLACK IRISH, SO I HAD TO SHOOT HIM (Patio), CASH JUST & THE PSYCHOPHONIKS, VIC RAMIERZ & Friends SAT 1/14 > TEABAG, DEVOLA, THREAT OF TOMORROW, DICKINS SUN 1/15 > RELOADED Party: CONDEMNED UNIT, HIT BY CAR, MAP OF HAWAII (Patio), THE TOMBSTONES, THE QUICK & THE DEAD (Patio), PRETTY PRETTY, CRAPULENCE (Patio), TXRD Bout @ Crocket Center-6pm MON 1/16 > RELOADED Party: ELVIS ON SPEED, BRICKS ATX, HALO RINGS HER HEAD, ME INFECTO (Patio), 20 EYED DRAGON, CHARLIE (Patio), RollerGirls Viewing Party-9pm TUE 1/17 > KARAOKE UNDERGROUND WED 1/18 > PANTHER ZORA, LIONS OF TSAYO, CENTERING

\*\*\* RELOADED MAGAZINE 2-NIGHT ROCK & ROLL ASSAULT (1/15 & 1/16) \*\*\*

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SKINNY JIMMY FEAT. JIMMY WILLEN  
OMAR LOPEZ, THE RENO PEREZ BAND

**FRIDAY-JANUARY 13** HAPPY HOUR W/ JESSIE LUIS  
**BROKEN TEETH**  
**BORN TO LOSE**  
**NEW DISASTER**  
**THE FEDS, HEAD PANIC**

**SATURDAY-JANUARY 14**  
**COEXIST**  
**LEAVING JULY**  
**SCREAMING AT THE SKY, THE ARTILLERY**

**SUNDAY-JANUARY 15** In The Lounge No Cover  
**DOMESTIC NEPHEWS, JEREMY PARKER BAND, EUGENE**

**MONDAY-JANUARY 16** In The Lounge No Cover From 8-12  
**JEFF HAYES SMOKIN' BLUES JAM W/**  
**SPECIAL GUEST DUNCAN ISENHOWER OF PODUNK**

**TUESDAY-JANUARY 17**  
**ECHOSET**  
**SARAH GYNN BAND**

**WEDNESDAY-JANUARY 18** In The Lounge No Cover  
**BLEITZHUNG**  
**MAPS OF ASIA, BETTER THAN NOTHING**

**THURSDAY-JANUARY 19** MUFF'S HAPPY HOUR  
**BIG CHIEF KEVIN GOODMAN**  
**THE FLAMING ARROWS**  
**MARCO GRAS INMANS & SPECIAL GUESTS**

**FRIDAY-JANUARY 20** **HONKY**  
**SCOTT H. BIRAM**  
**HELLAPENO**

**SATURDAY JANUARY 21** **SOUNDS UNDER RADIO**  
**DYNAH**  
**RED MONROE**  
**TITAN MOON**

**UPCOMING SHOWS**  
1-27 FRIENDS OF LIZZY SPARKLING, SLOW MOTION PICTURE, JERAMON SHON  
1-28 DRIFTING THE END, DRIVEN FRIENDLY, MERRYWETHER  
THE FALLOUT, MORNING SIDE DRIVE  
2-3 DRIVER FRIENDLY, THE AMB, GLASS FAMILY CASSETTE  
2-4 COURSE OF BURN, BURIED IN FIRE, BROTHERHOOD  
2-18 NASHVILLE PUSST, HONKY & SPECIAL GUEST

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8pm: Charlie's Holy Happy Hour  
Texas Moratorium Network Benefit Show  
**CONDEMNED UNIT**  
**HALO RINGS HER HEAD**  
**RUBBER ROBOT**  
8pm: Tia Carrera **CROW**  
Tattoo Raffle sponsored by Diablo Rojo

**Texas Extreme Metal Festival Night 2**  
**AVERSE SAFIRA**  
**BOWEL**  
**VOWS IN ASHES**

**PINK CLOUD**  
**BLACK LEATHER JESUS**  
**AUNT'S ANALOG**  
**SEX ORGANS OF EMITTANCE**

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**SOUND SYSTEM**  
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**UPCOMING SHOWS**  
1.17 The Always Already, Youngblood Grand 1.20 Amplified Heat, Lo-Pies  
1.21 Metal Fest 1.22 School Trauma Rashback 1.28 The Ann 1.29 Omega Blue

## ELYSIUM

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THU SPECIAL EVENT! JAN 12  
**Synth City**  
DJ ARGO

FRI SPECIAL EVENT! JAN 13  
**The Dead Sullivan Show**  
A Variety Show for the Subculture  
featuring *Lucid Dementia*,  
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SAT **HAVEN** JAN 14  
goth, industrial, synthpop, & eurodance  
DJs VOID & THE GOTHFATHER  
w/ SPECIAL GUEST DJ SPINLOCK (SAN ANTONIO)

SUN retro 80's JAN 15  
**REGRESSION**  
DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

TUE lesbian night JAN 17  
**SAPPHO'S ISLE**  
DJ AMERYKAH & DJ DOJA  
DOUBLE ELIMINATION POOL TOURNAMENT!  
(MUST SIGN UP BY 11PM)

WED NO COVER JAN 18  
**MID WAVE**  
dark 80's retro & old school goth  
DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
Thu Jan 19 \*Blitzkrieg! Industrial Audio  
Warfare w/ DJs Raleigh & Sensoria  
Fri Jan 20 \*Live! SubNatural,  
Rescue Mission, Before Dawn  
Sat Jan 28 \*Haven w/ special guest  
DJ Sensoria

21+ only, doors @ 9:30 PM unless specified  
more detailed information available at:  
www.elysiumonline.net (512) 478-2979

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No tickets for smokers!

th Kissinger, Golden Falcons,  
12 Pocket Symphonies \$2PBR  
Magicians' Happy Hour @ 7pm

fr Gorch Fock, Megazilla, Me  
13 Infecto, Snake Trap  
"Projections by Lori Varga"

sa For Those Who Know, Get Him  
14 Eat Him, the Interest Kills, INK

su That's Mister To You, Craig  
15 Marshall, and more

mo Rock & Roll Karaoke  
16 1000+ songs--no cover!  
Twin Peaks/Carnivale Happy Hour @ 7pm

tu Corridor Vamp, Cry Blood  
17 Apache, and more  
Live Comedy Happy Hour 8pm

we Sweethearts, Dirty Tactics  
18 (Philly), Bad Rackets  
The Revolution Will Not Be Televised @ 7

th Flametrick Subs, Satan's  
19 Cheerleaders, Chris Toast Trio  
Tonewheel Collective Happy Hour @ 7

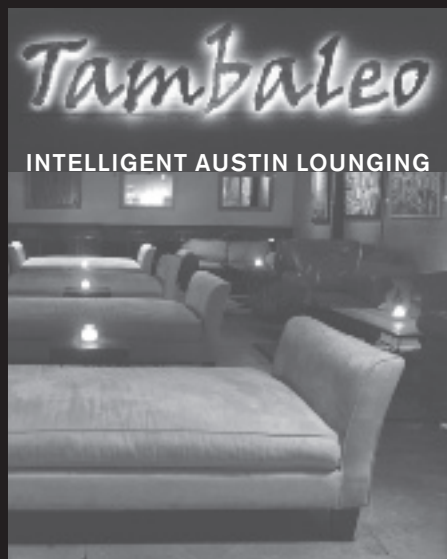
fr Just Guns release, Stories  
20 From the Frontier, Sad  
Accordions, northKorean  
Infant of Prague 7pm

sa 21 we'll let you know  
check M343.com to preview bands  
Mon.-Fri. 6:30-2 Sat.-Sun. 8-2  
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beerlandtexas.com









INTELLIGENT AUSTIN LOUNGING

## SUNDAY

Adam Raven & DJ Gobot --- 10:00

## MONDAY

Open Mic ----- 8:00-10:00  
Brad Brobinsky, Calvin ----- 10:00  
Russell & Friends

## TUESDAY

Panub ----- 10:00  
The Kurl ----- 12:00

## WEDNESDAY

Hip Hop Karaoke w/ ----- 9:00  
DJ Mel & David Miranda

## THURSDAY

HipHop & Rock w/ ----- 10:00  
DJ's Starsign & John Angle

## FRIDAY

The Flying Club ----- 7:00  
DJ Mel & David Miranda ----- 10:00

## SATURDAY

DJ's Kurupt & Inverse ----- 10:00

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FRI 1/13 **ROCK** ----- 8:00 DOORS, 9 SHOW  
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**VALHALLA**  
THE HANDSOME CHARLIES  
BASIC, BOB WHITE & THE F-ELECTRICS

SAT 1/14 **DUB/LATIN/JAM** ----- 8:00 DOORS, 9 SHOW  
**GRIMY STYLES**  
TUMBATEO  
(FEAT. MEMBERS OF COLLECT ALL FIVE, MAMBAJAMBA)

SUN 1/15 **BENEFIT** ----- DOORS 8:00, 9 SHOW  
**STEVE CARTER MEDICAL BENEFIT**  
CYRIL NEVILLE, THE MAU MAU CHAPLAINS,  
STOP THE TRUCK, SONNY THROCKMORTON,  
FREDDY POWERS, ALBERT & GAGE,  
SARA HICKMAN & MORE. SILENT AUCTION & FOOD

WEDS 1/18 ----- 8:00 DOORS, 9 SHOW  
**FACUNDO'S NIGHT OUT WITH**  
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01/19 - belhome, jade dig, david newbould, molly wenter  
01/20 - catch a fire dancehall soundsystem  
01/21 - conito boombox/me-tv showcase w/  
mango beta, blatzung, ilago elenz, edo  
01/24 - matt beardsley variety show  
01/25 - furniture rock show w/ awesome cool dudes,  
dF doyle, tuesday killers  
01/27 - limitpoint, ruins of bway, midgetmen, smile and  
sad, fly by fire  
01/28 - crash gallery, the mercers, prom nite,  
shortfilm  
02/02 - brownsoul vs afrorequel  
02/04 - bob marley bday celebration  
02/08 - i voted for lodes (midwestern aka/punk),

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Congratulations Mack, Vince & UT!

Thu 12 Colin Gilmore ~ Sarah Sample 8pm

Fri 13  
**SPOT**  
Gretchen Phillips 9pm

Sat 14  
FiveTimesAugust  
Bellevue 9pm

Sun 15 Mark Ambrose 8pm  
Mon 16 The Sick Science Project 8pm  
Tues' Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory 8:30pm  
Wed 18 Kevin Carroll ~ Josh Mercer 8pm

thur 19 Southpaw Jones ~ Tricia Mitchell  
fri 20 Suzanna Choffel ~ Ernie C. Ernst  
sat 21 Brent Palmer ~ Abra Moore

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SATURDAY JAN 14  
**Dirty Cajuns** 8:30

TUESDAY JAN 17  
**THE GUNHANDS** 8:30

WEDNESDAY JAN 18  
**The Nortons** 8:00

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★FRI., JANUARY 13★  
**LEE EDWARDS**  
★FRI., JANUARY 20★  
**TBA**  
★SAT., JANUARY 21★  
**LARRY HOOPER**

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5:30-7:30PM EACH TUES.  
HAPPY HOUR WITH  
**BRIAN KREMER**  
8-10PM EACH WED.  
HAPPY HOUR WITH  
**PTARMIGAN**  
6-10PM EACH THURS.  
HAPPY HOUR WITH  
**THE WALKING CONTRADICTIONS**  
★FRI., JANUARY 13★  
**THE DEWEYS**  
★SAT., JANUARY 14★  
**NICOLE GILBERT**  
★FRI., JANUARY 20★  
**TBA**  
★SAT., JANUARY 21★  
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Su 1/15 12-3PM JOIN US FOR OUR ALL NEW IRISH SUNDAY BRUNCH FEATURING THE TEA MERCHANTS THE BEST TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC IN CENTRAL TEXAS

6-10PM **TIM FERN BENEFIT**  
4-5PM **JIMMY LAFAVE**  
5:30-6:30PM **VICKS COMBO**  
FROM TWO HOOTS AND A HOLLER

7-7:30PM **TOMMY HILL**  
8-8:30PM **MRS PENT YOUTH**  
9-10PM **REID WILSON**  
& HIS SO CALLED FRIENDS  
ALL DONATIONS WELCOME, SILENT AUCTION  
KARAOKE W/ EDIE RETURNS NEXT SUNDAY

mo 1/16 MONDAY LUNCH SPECIAL FISH AND CHIPS \$5.75  
7:30PM MOTHER EGAN'S TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT! WIN A PLACE ON THE FINALS FOR A CHANCE AT TWO ROUND TRIP TICKETS TO VEGAS. NO COVER, NO MINIMUM PURCHASE, NO REASON NOT TO PLAY.

tu 1/17 TUESDAY LUNCH SPECIAL CHEESEBURGER \$5.75 WITH YOUR CHOICE OF SOUP, SALAD, OR FRIES  
7:30-10:30PM MOTHER EGAN'S TRIVIA QUIZ TESTING AUSTIN'S IQ ONE PINT AT A TIME. EVERYONE WELCOME, NO COVER

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# COMICS

## Too Much Coffee Man

BY SHANNON WHEELER



## TROUBLETOWN

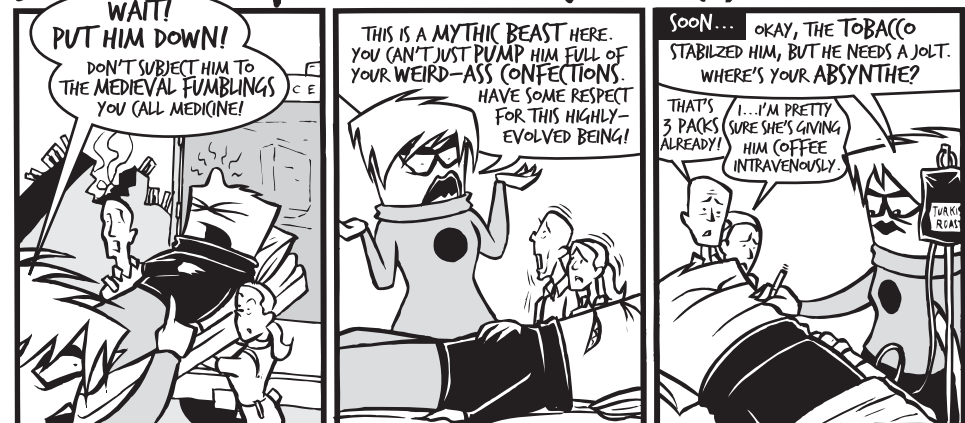
HOW BIG NEWS BREAKS

BY LOYD DANGLE



## BITTER YETI IN THE CITY

2006 BY JASON STOUT  
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## MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS

The term pony – as a type of horse – is about size, not age.

Takitos are crunchy, cinnamon-flavored Mexican fortune cookies. Resembling a small taco shell, Takitos contain messages tucked inside that contain "dichos" or Mexican proverbs.

There are three places called Mount Airy in Virginia (in Charles City County, Pittsylvania County, and Shenandoah County).

Duryard Halls, the largest dorm at the University of Exeter in the UK, once housed Harry Potter author JK Rowling and actor Alfonso Ribeiro (*Fresh Prince of Bel Air*).

The average daily price of a hotel room in New York City hit \$292 in November 2005, according to the hospitality industry analysis firm PKF Consulting.

The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or e-mail mrpants@austinchronicle.com.





# CLASSIFIEDS

## 100 JOBS

**110** Art/Design  
**115** Beauty/Salon/Spa  
**120** Entertainment/  
Casting  
**125** General  
**130** Healthcare  
**135** Hospitality  
**140** Legal  
**145** Office/Clerical  
**150** Non-Profit  
**155** Professional  
**160** Research Study  
**165** Retail  
**170** Sales/Marketing  
**175** School/Training  
**180** Technical

## 200 HOUSING

**210** Reader Notice  
**215** Apartment/  
Condo/Townhome  
**220** Duplex/Houses  
**225** Vacation  
**230** Commercial  
**235** Roommates  
**240** Real Estate For Sale

## 300 BUY/SELL/TRADE

**310** Antiques/  
Collectibles  
**315** Appliances  
**320** Baby/Kids Stuff  
**325** Clothing  
**330** Computers  
**335** Electronics  
**340** Free Stuff  
**345** Furniture  
**350** Garage/  
Estate Sales  
**355** General  
**360** Jewelry/  
Accessories  
**365** Pets/Pet Supplies  
**370** Recreational  
**375** Tickets/  
Entertainment  
**380** Tools  
**385** Trades  
**390** Wanted to Buy

## 400 SERVICES

**410** Business  
**415** Computers  
**420** Counseling  
**425** Health/Wellness  
**430** Home  
**435** Financial  
**440** Fitness/Training  
**445** Legal  
**450** Licensed Massage  
**455** Psychic/Astrology  
**460** Travel  
**465** Miscellaneous

## 500 NOTICES

**510** Activities  
**515** Classes/Workshops  
**520** Discussion Groups  
**525** Events  
**530** General  
**535** Lost & Found  
**540** Volunteers  
**545** Legal Notices

## 600 MOTOR

**610** Cars  
**615** Trucks  
**620** SUV's  
**625** Motorcycles  
**630** Recreational  
**635** Parts  
**640** Repairs

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**710** Equipment for Sale  
**715** Music Instruction  
**720** Musicians Available  
**725** Musicians Wanted  
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**735** Rentals/Services  
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Messages



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**ALL** Tired of the same restaurant? Try Japanese. Potential for big money. Hiring chef trainees, superstar servers and more. Kobe Japanese Steakhouse. 13492 Research Blvd., Ste. 380. NW corner of 183 and Anderson Mill Rd.



## FOOD SERVERS

Please apply:  
**Monday - Friday**  
**10-11am, 2-5pm.**  
at 2002 Manor Rd.

## ALSO INTERVIEWING FOR ALL POSITIONS

**AT THE NEW HOOVER'S  
COOKING LOCATION AT:**  
**13376 Research Blvd #400**  
**(Anderson Mill & 183)**  
Call 335-0300

ALL



Jimmy John's Sandwiches is looking for CREW and DRIVERS. A fun and exciting workplace! Apply in person at 601 W. MLK, 515 Congress or 3203 Red River.

**BARRISTA** Mozart's Coffee, Now Hiring Barristas & bakery positions. Send resume to roasteratx@yahoo.com or fax 477-1971, or come by & apply at 3825 Lake Austin Blvd.

**BARTENDER** Needed. Airport Club. 2039 Airport Blvd., 499-8744.

**BARTENDER** \$300/day potential. No exp. nec. Training provided. 1-800-965-6520 x207.

BARTENDER

## La Morada Mexican Restaurant

What experience do you need? A great smile, like to meet all kinds of people, and able to have fun at work. If you that person, than apply at 12407 N. Mopac Expy (next to HEB) or call

**836-6611**

**COOK** Crown and Anchor Pub needs the best short-order cooks in Austin. High wages, part-time work. Apps accepted M-Thu 1pm-5pm. NO PHONE CALLS! 2911 San Jacinto.

**COUNTER STAFF** PT positions available to include evenings and weekends @ Smoothie King, month paid training will be given, Call 512-452-3558

**COUNTER SERVERS** for Italian Cafe and Coffee & Cookie Shop at Northcross Mall food court. Must be dependable with good customer service skills. Food service experience not necessary. Flexible shifts available. Send resume to: Imartine@chaparral.ice.com or apply in person at Chaparral Ice 14200 1-35 N. (exit 247)

**DANCERS & WAITRESSES**

## The Landing Strip

**MAKE BIG \$\$\$**  
FT/PT, flex. sched., no exp. nec., 745 Bastrop Hwy, one mile from the airport.  
385-2878.

**WEBSITE** Get the *Austin Chronicle* every day! Check out [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com), fresh every Friday, and available 24 hours a day!

DELIVERY

## BIG TIPS!! LUNCH, DINNER & WEEKEND SHIFTS

Make the most of your time Deliver food from Austin's best restaurants Earn up to \$15 per hour - Paid Daily Call 346-9990 or Email:

[EatOutIn@yahoo.com](mailto:EatOutIn@yahoo.com)

**ENTERTAINERS &  
WAITSTAFF & DOORMEN**

If you have a fun loving attitude & enjoy a party atmosphere, then you are ready for a great fall of fun and \$\$\$!

**SEEKING OUTGOING,  
ENERGETIC PEOPLE**

## AM & PM WAITSTAFF, ENTERTAINERS & DOORMEN

No Exp. Necessary  
Part Time or Full Time  
Flexible Schedules  
AM or PM Shifts  
**Fun Job!**  
**Great Money!**

## \*SUGARS\*

**Uptown Cabaret**  
451-1711  
404 Highland Mall Blvd

ENTERTAINERS



MAKE LOTS OF MONEY!  
and have lots of fun as an **Entertainer or Waitress** at Joy of Austin Men's Club. No experience necessary. Will train. Apply in person, Exit 250 IH35. 218-8012.

GENERAL MANAGER AND  
ASSIST GENERAL MANAGER

Zen Japanese Food Fast - 6 yr old fast casual concept, recognized as a 5 time Chronicle winner, developing San Antonio and Austin market. Looking to fill GM and assist GM positions 2 yrs exp. necessary. Searching for persons with excellent communication, leadership and operational skills. Email resume to [feedback@eatzen.com](mailto:feedback@eatzen.com) or fax 512-692-2598

**MANAGER & ASSISTANT**

Sherlock's Baker Street Pub & Grill is now looking for an experienced Manager & an Administrative Assistant. **Management Position** - 2 years high volume management experience & a great work ethic is a must, mostly nights & weekends.

**Administrative Assistant** - Excel & data entry skills are required, very flexible hours & extensive paperwork. Please send resumes to [gmaustin@sherlockspub.com](mailto:gmaustin@sherlockspub.com)

**TABC CERTIFICATION**

[www.sixthstreetcertification.com](http://www.sixthstreetcertification.com)

Call for Class Schedule  
576-7223

**WAIT PERSON** Dirty Martin's Hamburgers FULL or PT, Exp. required, Current TABC certificate needed & Exc. references. Apply 3-5 M-F, 2808 Guadalupe

**WAITSTAFF** Red River Cafe now hiring experienced. Apply in person between 2-4 at 2912 Medical Arts St.

**WAITSTAFF** Immediate Openings! Flexible schedule. Las Palomas Restaurant/Bar, Westwood Shopping Center, 3201 Bee Caves #122.

Apply in Person Tues.-Sat.

WAITSTAFF & HOST

## La Morada

**Mexican Restaurant**

Have fun at work and bank some cash, flexible hours. No exp. necessary. Apply for our team at 12407 N. Mopac Expy (next to HEB) or call 836-6611

## 145 OFFICE/CLERICAL

**CLERICAL/ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS.** US Government. \$12-\$48/hr. Full Benefits/Paid Training. Work available in areas like Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Wildlife, More! 1-800-320-9353 x2001. (AAN CAN)

## 150 NON-PROFIT

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see in the world.**

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• \$375-\$460/wk + bonus  
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opportunities:

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- Host Staff
- Beverage Servers
- Beverage Cart Attds.
- Bussperson / Steward
- Safety/Security Attd.
- Concierge
- Reservation Agent
- Asst. Front Office Mgr.
- Acct. Cashier
- Acct. Billing Coordinator
- Human Resources Asst.
- Audio Visual Asst. Mgr.
- PBX Operators
- Housekeepers AM/PM
- Night Cleaners
- Golf Course Admin Asst.
- Golf Shop Clerk
- Golf Range Attds.
- Nail Technician
- Pilates Instructor
- Massage Therapist
- Greenskeeper
- Golf Course Spray Tech

Apply in person Monday-Friday 8:30-5PM, 8212 Barton Club Drive, Austin, Texas 78735. Email resumes to [jobs@bartoncreek.com](mailto:jobs@bartoncreek.com) or fax your information to 512-329-4014. Website: <http://www.bartoncreek.com> Barton Creek offers a complete benefits package & competitive wages. EOE

**CAFE STAFF** Seeking warm, friendly, and experienced lunch host/floor manager, pm host, waitstaff. Drop off resume between 2:30-4:30 pm Mon-Fri. Castle Hill Cafe 1101 W 5th 476-7218. Voted Austin's Favorite Restaurant. 5 consecutive years.

**DONATE CARS** \$1000 Gift. \$1000 Shopping Spree. Free Next Day Pick up. IRS Deduction. Lydia's House for Abused Women. Call 1-888-484-5437.

**MUSIC DIRECTOR** Progressive/Inclusive/Liberal Austin Church. Must have choir conducting skills. 10 hours a week/\$10,000 a year. Fax resume to 512.467.9611 or email at [mail@tunc.org](mailto:mail@tunc.org).

# 155 PROFESSIONAL

**BEHAVIOR ANALYST**  
Behavior Analyst needed full-time in San Antonio. Pediatric experience preferred. Benefits available. Call 210-340-2627 or fax resume to 210-340-6437

**DATA COLLECTOR** Position available with Corworx Staffing Services. Position is responsible for collection retail pricing in grocery, office, pet and mass retailer's locations. Prior grocery, merchandising, inventory, or mystery shopping experience helpful. For more details concerning number of hours and pay please call 1-866-744-9447 ext. 2159

**ELECTRIAN** Electrician, Electrician helpers needed for commercial and residential. Must have own tools and vehicle. Call Tre @ 748-6204.

**ESD SYSTEM SPECIALIST**  
Provide technical assistance in support of electronic service delivery (ESD). Send resume to Neubus Inc., Attn: I-Hsing Tsao, 11525A Stonehollow Drive, Suite 170, Austin, TX 78758.

**REPORTER WANTED** Are you serious about news? At least 3 years experience at weekly or daily paper required. Advancement Opportunities. Contact Emily, resumes with samples. No phone calls. Confidentiality Assured. Urban Tulsa Weekly 710 S Kenosha, Tulsa, OK 74120. [eberman@urbantulsa.com](mailto:eberman@urbantulsa.com)

**WEBSITE COORDINATOR**  
EMERALDS webteam seeks a smart and focused individual adept at HTML, PhotoShop, writing for the web, experienced in blogging, e-commerce and e-marketing. Contact Mark Alman, [ma365@hotmail.com](mailto:ma365@hotmail.com)

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- Cook
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- Bussperson / Steward
- Safety/Security Attd.
- Concierge
- Reservation Agent
- Asst. Front Office Mgr.
- Acct. Cashier
- Acct. Billing Coordinator
- Human Resources Asst.
- PBX Operators
- Housekeepers AM/PM
- Night Cleaners
- Golf Course Admin Asst.
- Golf Shop Clerk
- Golf Range Attds.
- Nail Technician
- Pilates Instructor
- Massage Therapist
- Greenskeeper
- Golf Course Spray Tech

Apply in person Monday - Friday 8:30am-5pm, 8212 Barton Club Drive Austin, Texas 78735.

Résumés can be emailed to [jobs@bartoncreek.com](mailto:jobs@bartoncreek.com)

or fax your information to 512-329-4014.

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## The Search for the Ultimate COYOTE CMT Reality Show Casting Call

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# 160 RESEARCH STUDY

### BIRTH CONTROL

#### HEALTHY WOMEN

A clinical research trial is being conducted to study the combination of oral birth control with folic acid.

**To Qualify You Must Be:**

- Non smokers between 18 and 45 years of age
- Not currently using hormonal contraceptives
- Willing to come in for 9 visits and 2 follow-up phone calls over 35 weeks

**Qualified Participants May Receive:**

- Study-related investigational medication or placebo
- Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- Compensation of up to \$650 for time and travel

Contact us for more info...  
http://www.metaclin.com  
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### METACLIN

### MENTAL HEALTH

FutureSearch Trials is currently conducting **INPATIENT** and **OUTPATIENT** research studies for people with:

**DEPRESSION, ANXIETY, BIPOLAR DISORDER**

Participants should be at least 18 years of age. Be able to provide written informed consent. Financial compensation to those who qualify.

**Call 380-9595**

### DEPRESSION

#### ARE YOU STILL FEELING DEPRESSED?

Have you tried medication, but it just didn't help?

You may be eligible to participate in a clinical study researching an investigational medication for people with depression, who are not responding to treatment.

Eligible study participants may receive study-related: medical care, research medication, laboratory work, and evaluations, at no cost.

**NOW ENROLLING FOR A MAJOR DEPRESSION CLINICAL STUDY**

**CALL TODAY:**  
COMMUNITY CLINICAL RESEARCH

**(512) 323-2622**

### BLOOD PRESSURE

#### MEN AND WOMEN WITH HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

A clinical research trial is being conducted to study the blood pressure lowering effect of an investigational medication.

**To Qualify You Must Be:**

- 18 years or older
- Willing to make up to 11 visits over 14 weeks

**Qualified Participants May Receive:**

- Study-related investigational medication or placebo
- Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- Compensation for time and travel

For information call or visit our website  
MetaClin Research  
http://www.metaclin.com  
studies@metaclin.com

**(512) 732-2444**

### METACLIN

### WISDOM TEETH?

Are you having wisdom teeth pain? SCIREX in Austin is looking for men, and women of non-childbearing potential, to participate in a research study evaluating an investigational medication for post-operative pain, following wisdom teeth removal.

Qualified study participants may have their wisdom teeth removed, at no charge, by an experienced oral surgeon, receive study medication and financial compensation.

- Potential participants must be healthy men or women of nonchildbearing potential, 18-40 years old
- Have 2 wisdom teeth requiring extraction
- May receive up to \$1,175 financial compensation

For more information call:

**320-1630**

### SCIREX

### DYSPEPSIA

#### LET GO OF YOUR STOMACH PROBLEMS

Are you a woman experiencing any of these symptoms?

- Early fullness while eating
- Post-meal fullness
- Bloating

You may have a digestive condition called **DYSPEPSIA**, which may occur during or after eating. Our physicians are conducting a research study for **DYSPEPSIA** with the investigational use of an already approved medication and invite you to take part. If you qualify you will receive all study examinations and study medication.

For more information, please call Toll Free:

**1-888-900-2673**

Austin Gastroenterology, PA  
4310 James Casey, Suite 4A  
Austin, TX  
http://www.belly911.com

### METACLIN

### RESEARCH TEETH

#### Type 2 Diabetics

Healthcare Discoveries needs Type 2 diabetic males or females aged 35-70 for a clinical research study. You must have been diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes.

Participants complete:

- A Screening Visit
- A 23 night stay in our research facility.

Compensation up to \$6,325 for information call our recruitment hotline at 1-877-848-7425 or at [www.healthcare-discoveries.com](http://www.healthcare-discoveries.com)

### DONOR PROGRAM

#### SEMEN DONORS NEEDED

Fairfax Cryobank seeks college educated men 18-39 to participate in 6 month donor program. Avg. \$150 per specimen. Call today for free application or apply online at <http://www.123donate.com>.

### VACCINE

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Benchmark Research needs men and women who are 18 years of age or older, and who are in good general health to participate in a clinical research study to evaluate an investigational vaccine for Japanese Encephalitis.

Compensation up to \$475 will be available to eligible participants for their time and travel. Participation in a research study is always at no cost to the participant.

This study includes 5 office visits. No overnight visits to our facility are required.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL**

**1-800-369-2875**  
<http://www.benchmarkresearch.net>

### BENCHMARK RESEARCH

### MIGRAINE

#### TIRED OF MIGRAINES? IF SO, CONSIDER JOINING OUR RESEARCH STUDY

If you have had 2-6 migraine headaches per month for the past 3 months, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for migraines.

**Eligible participants must be between 18 and 65 years of age. Office visits, study procedures, and study medication will be provided at no cost.**

**Compensation up to \$210 will be paid to eligible participants for their time and travel.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL**

**1-800-369-2875**  
<http://www.benchmarkresearch.net>

### BENCHMARK RESEARCH

### COMMON COLD

#### COMING DOWN WITH A COLD?

- Nasal Congestion
- Runny Nose • Cough
- Sore Throat
- Body Aches & Pains

If you have just started suffering from these symptoms, and are 18-65 years of age, you may qualify to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for cold symptoms.

All study-related care and investigational medication or placebo is provided at no cost for qualified participants.

Compensation up to \$100 will be paid to qualified participants for their time and effort.

Please contact us today if you would like more information about participating in this clinical research study.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL**

**1-800-369-2875**  
<http://www.benchmarkresearch.net>

### BENCHMARK RESEARCH

### HERPES PREVENTION STUDY, FEMALE

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Benchmark Research needs women who are 18 to 30 years of age and in general good health to participate in a clinical research study to evaluate an investigational vaccine for genital herpes. In order to be eligible to participate in this study, participants must not have previously been diagnosed with either oral or genital herpes. Compensation up to \$450 will be available to eligible participants for their time and travel. Participation in a research study is always at no cost to the participant.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL**

**1-800-369-2875**  
<http://www.benchmarkresearch.net>

### BENCHMARK RESEARCH

### ASTHMA/ALLERGIES

#### DO YOU HAVE ASTHMA AND SEASONAL ALLERGIES?

A research trial is being conducted to study the effectiveness of the investigational use of FDA approved asthma and allergy medications.

**To Qualify You Must:**

- Currently have symptoms of both asthma AND seasonal allergies
- Be 15 years or older
- Willing to participate for up to six weeks

**Qualified Participants May Receive:**

- Study-related investigational medication or placebo
- Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- Compensation of up to \$400 for time and travel

Contact us for more info  
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**(512) 732-2444**  
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### METACLIN

### 170 SALES MARKETING

**AUSTIN JOB FAIR** Monday, January 23, 2006 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM Omni Austin Hotel Southpark 4140 Governor's Row Austin, TX 78744

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**PROMOTIONS** Need money now? Can't wait for a paycheck? No Experience Needed, Company Training Provided, Great Incentives Available, 27 Positions Available. Starting at \$2,250 per month. Call 512-203-0835 Now.

### SALES & MARKETING

AUSTIN FILM SOCIETY. DIRECTOR OF SALES & MARKETING. Market Austin Studios (Austin, Texas) to a variety of studio & independent productions. Details at [www.austinfilm.org](http://www.austinfilm.org)

### SALES/MARKETING

Outside salesperson needed for Affordable Sound & CD Duplication. Commission + free studio time. Call Will @ 512-699-7466 or [will@affordablesound.com](mailto:will@affordablesound.com)

### 175 SCHOOL TRAINING

### DIRECT CARE

Outdoor-oriented person needed to work in a therapeutic wilderness camp for emotionally disturbed boys. Day staff positions available. Call 9am-4pm, 801-4846

### TEACHERS

Teach English in Japan/BA/BS required. AEON Corp. is interviewing in Austin in the middle of February 2006.Positions are salaried withsubsidized housing.Japanese or teaching exp. not required. Submit resume & essay on "Why I want to live & work in Japan" to [aeonchi@aeonet.com](mailto:aeonchi@aeonet.com) or fax (312) 251-0901 by 2/10

[www.aeonet.com](http://www.aeonet.com)

### TEACHERS

TEACH ENGLISH ABROAD! Train in Prague. 4-week internationally recognized TEFL certificate course. Job assistance worldwide. Courses offered monthly. [info@teflworldwideprague.com](mailto:info@teflworldwideprague.com) or <http://www.teflworldwideprague.com>. Phone: 011 420 603 486 830. (AAN CAN)

### TEACHER

Want to become a teacher? Teach math, science, Bilingual & Special education in Austin. Go to [textasteachingfellows.org](http://textasteachingfellows.org) to apply.

### 180 TECHNICAL

**METALSMITH** Metalsmith opportunity avl w/creative studio. Specializing in furniture & architectural work. Far Northwest location. Fax resume to 512-219-1226.

**QUALITY CONTROL SUPERVISOR** is needed to supervise all areas of QA/QC inspection and documentation. This position must provide feedback for quarterly goals and objectives; assist in personnel activities of the department; understand and follow sampling plans; and assist in data collection for measurement and trending. Attention to detail; familiarity with Quality Systems; and previous supervisory experience is required. Send cover letter, resume, and salary history to [human.resources@exac.com](mailto:human.resources@exac.com). To learn more about Exactech, and this opportunity please visit [www.exac.com](http://www.exac.com).

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER** Salary up to 100k. Signing Bonus, Fax(830)624-2235

# 180 TECHNICAL

### MECHANIC

Companylooking for a full service mechanic.Jessica 512-928-8733

### METALSMITH

Metalsmith opportunity avl w/creative studio. Specializing in furniture & architectural work. Far Northwest location. Fax resume to 512-219-1226.

### QUALITY CONTROL SUPERVISOR

is needed to supervise all areas of QA/QC inspection and documentation. This position must provide feedback for quarterly goals and objectives; assist in personnel activities of the department; understand and follow sampling plans; and assist in data collection for measurement and trending. Attention to detail; familiarity with Quality Systems; and previous supervisory experience is required. Send cover letter, resume, and salary history to [human.resources@exac.com](mailto:human.resources@exac.com). To learn more about Exactech, and this opportunity please visit [www.exac.com](http://www.exac.com).

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Salary up to 100k. Signing Bonus, Fax(830)624-2235

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LARGE EXPANDING CORPORATION IN AUSTIN AREA

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NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

FULL COMPANY TRAINING

**ENTRY LEVEL & MANAGEMENT POSITIONS**

**CALL 512-267-4203**

### INSTRUCTORS

HIP-HOP, STEP, or JAZZ, DANCE, CHEER, or SELF-DEFENSE/KARATE, TUMBLING or GYMNASTICS COACH

If you have experience in any one of these areas, we are looking for you to teach children ages 4-16 in the Austin & Taylor area 3-4 afternoons 2:30-6pm, some nights available. Responsible applicants only. Must have dependable transportation.

Please call for more information

**(210)310-0216**

If you have a fun loving attitude & enjoy a party atmosphere, then you are ready for a great fall of fun and \$\$\$!

**SEEKING OUTGOING, ENERGETIC PEOPLE**

**AM & PM ENTERTAINERS DOOR MEN WAITSTAFF**

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### Olive Garden

**Please come and apply at:**

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- 512-918-9460

3940 S. Lamar Blvd.

- 512-440-0131

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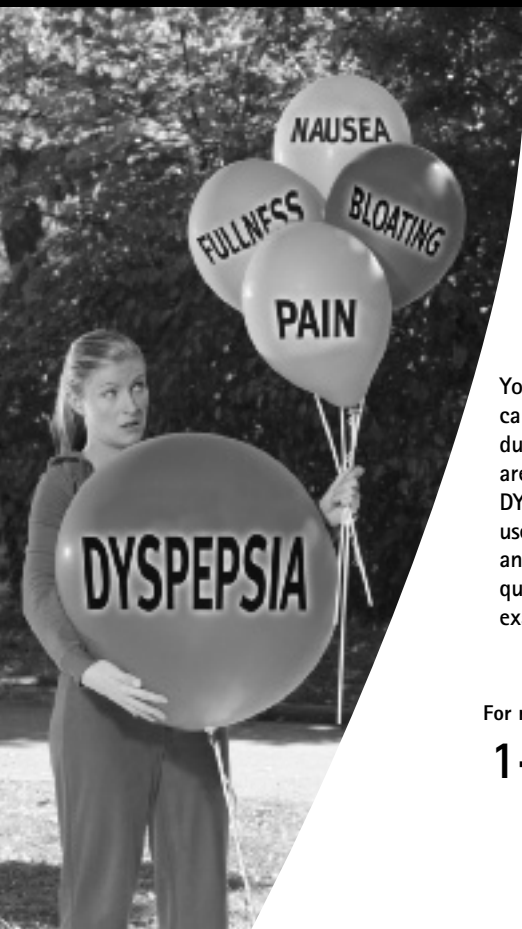
- 512-459-0701

100 Sundance Parkway

- 512-341-8433



# LET GO of your STOMACH PROBLEMS



Are you a woman experiencing any of these symptoms?

- Early fullness while eating
- Post-meal fullness
- Bloating

You may have a digestive condition called **DYSPEPSIA**, which may occur during or after eating. Our physicians are conducting a research study for **DYSPEPSIA** with the investigational use of an already approved medication and invite you to take part. If you qualify you will receive all study examinations and study medication.

For more information, please call Toll Free:

**1-888-900-2673**

Austin Gastroenterology, PA  
4310 James Casey, Suite 4A  
Austin

[www.belly911.com](http://www.belly911.com)

## WISDOM TEETH?



Are you having wisdom teeth pain? **SCIREX** in Austin is looking for men, and women of non-childbearing potential, to participate in a research study evaluating an investigational medication for post-operative pain, following wisdom teeth removal.

Qualified study participants may have their wisdom teeth removed, at no charge, by an experienced oral surgeon, receive study medication and financial compensation.

- Potential participants must be healthy men or women of non-childbearing potential, 18-40 years old
- Have 2 wisdom teeth requiring extraction
- May receive up to \$1,175 financial compensation

For more information call  
**320-1630**

**SCIREX**

## RESEARCH STUDIES



### Do you have Asthma And Seasonal Allergies?

A research trial is being conducted to study the effectiveness of the investigational use of an FDA approved asthma and allergy medications.

#### To Qualify You Must Be:

- ▲ Currently have symptoms of both asthma AND seasonal allergies
- ▲ 15 years or older
- ▲ Willing to participate for up to six weeks

#### Qualified Participants May Receive:

- ▲ Study-related investigational medication or placebo
- ▲ Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- ▲ Compensation of up to \$400.00 for time and travel

#### Contact us for more information ...

Phone: (512) 732-2444 studies@metaclin.com  
FAX: (512) 732-2446

[WWW.METACLIN.COM](http://WWW.METACLIN.COM)

**METACLIN**



### Men and Women with High Blood Pressure

A clinical research trial is being conducted to study the blood pressure lowering effect of an investigational medication.

#### To Qualify You Must Be:

- ▲ 18 years or older
- ▲ Willing to make up to 11 visits over 14 weeks

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- ▲ Study-related investigational medication or placebo
- ▲ Study-related laboratory and physical examinations
- ▲ Compensation for time and travel

#### Contact us for more information ...

Phone: (512) 732-2444 studies@metaclin.com  
FAX: (512) 732-2446

[WWW.METACLIN.COM](http://WWW.METACLIN.COM)

**METACLIN**



# Coming down with a cold?

- Nasal Congestion
- Runny Nose
- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Body Aches & Pains

If you have just started suffering from these symptoms, and are 18—65 years of age, you may qualify to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for cold symptoms.



All study-related care and investigational medication or placebo is provided at no cost for qualified participants.

Compensation up to \$100 will be paid to qualified participants for their time and effort.

Please contact us today if you would like more information about participating in this clinical research study.

For more information, please call  
**1-800-369-2875**  
[www.benchmarkresearch.net](http://www.benchmarkresearch.net)

**BENCHMARK**  
RESEARCH

# Volunteers Needed

Benchmark Research needs men and women who are 18 years of age or older, and who are in good general health to participate in a clinical research study to evaluate an investigational vaccine for Japanese Encephalitis.

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This study includes 5 office visits. No overnight visits to our facility are required.

Call  
**1-800-369-2875**  
For More Information



**BENCHMARK**  
RESEARCH  
[www.benchmarkresearch.net](http://www.benchmarkresearch.net)

1015 East 32nd Street, Suite 303  
Austin, Texas 78705

# Tired of migraines? If so, consider joining our research study.

If you have had 2-6 migraine headaches per month for the past 3 months, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for migraines.



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For more information about this study, please contact:

**BENCHMARK**  
RESEARCH

**1-800-369-2875**  
[www.benchmarkresearch.net](http://www.benchmarkresearch.net)

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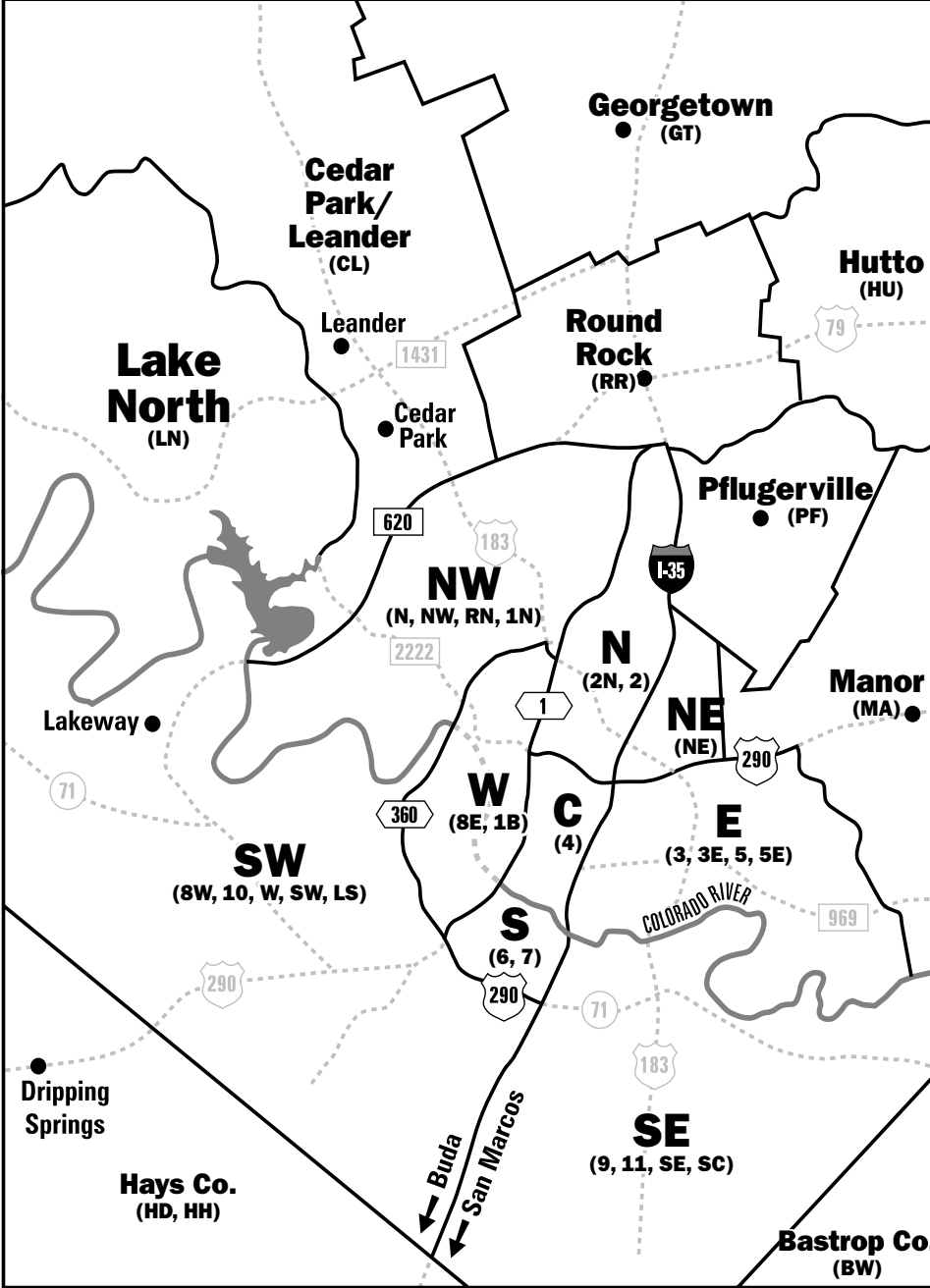
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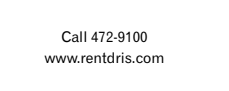
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\$725/month. W/D conns., \$300  
off 1st month. ATX 587-5090  
greg@atxrelo.com

**SOUTHWEST** Greenbelt views,  
w/d incld, balconies, eff \$585, 1-  
1 \$720, 2-2 \$890.  
avignonrealty.com, 236-0002.

**SOUTHWEST** 3/2 \$760. \$0 dep.  
\$0 app. Only 4yrs old. Major  
employee discount.  
john@atxrelo.com 659-5339

**WEST** 711 W. 26th St. 1122 sqft.  
loft style, 3 blocks from UT, 2/2,  
stained concrete flrs, walk-in  
closets, all new appl. including  
microwave & W/D, 2 car garage,  
\$1500. Call281-222-4537

# 220

## DUPLEX/HOUSES

**CENTRAL**  
**WelcomeHomeLeasing.com**  
**Laura Croteau, Realtor**  
**554-2920 cell**

• **1303 BROADMOOR-** by  
51st/135- Big remodeled 3 BD  
& roof. 3 zoned CACH! W/D,  
fridge, gas stove, DW, fans  
everywhere, gas FP in huge  
party room, covered patio,  
giant fenced yard. \$1350

• **5207 ROBINSDALE LANE-**  
**WINDSOR PARK- off east**  
**51st. Large, 3/2/2 house.**  
**New carpet, new ceramic**  
**tile floors, CACH, fresh**  
**interior paint, new roof, new**  
**stainless steel fridge with**  
**icemaker & gas stove, new**  
**DW, W/D conns. Huge**  
**fenced yard. 2nd living**  
**makes great rehearsal**  
**space! \$1,250 rent.**

• **1000 WEST ST. JOHNS,**  
**APT B - CRESTVIEW -**  
stylish, unique, oversized  
studio apt. 825 sq. ft., slate  
floors and countertops!! 1  
year old construction. 2 sets  
of double French doors open  
to 1000 sq. ft. concrete patio.  
Stainless steel appliances. 2  
BIG walk in closets. Pantry in  
kitchen. Lots of outside  
storage. \$900 rent

**CENTRAL** 3/1.5/carpport.2 liv,  
1419 fairwood rd. 1300/mo.600  
dep 784-0787

**CENTRAL DUPLEX** \$675 2/1  
carport, W/Dconn, dishwasher,  
458-4412. 7711A Meadowview

**CENTRAL** Charming North  
Loop area 2/1. Newly renovated,  
stained concrete floors, fenced  
yard. W/D, water paid. Great  
location, walk to bus, bars &  
breakfast. Smoking pets ok.  
\$800/mo. 659.5434

**CENTRAL** 1003 B Rmeria  
1-1 high ceilings, hardwoods.  
\$595; 4712 Depew #103 eff.  
\$450; 1500 Cullen 3-2-2  
CACH, hardwoods, utility,  
fenced yard \$1200. 658-9493  
www.cbimanagement.com

**CENTRAL** 2/1, 3 miles to UT,  
beautiful home, WD  
incld,jacuzzi bath w/ sky-  
light, tile, hrwds, lrg yard.,  
electric, gas, water paid!  
\$1150 698-6339

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**CENTRAL** Travis Heights 3-1,  
bonus & sun rooms,  
skylights,hardwood & marble  
floors. Fence 1116 Mission  
Ridge \$1750. 894-0619

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**CENTRAL** 3/2 Hyde Park  
Duplex \$1250 512.627.1515  
east43rd@sbcglobal.net

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When you may be able to  
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can own a home - 3 bed-  
room, 2 baths, and 2 car gar-  
age worth \$150,000 and pay  
about the same as a 2 bed-  
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Call Eddie Reynolds today:  
512-921-9100

**CENTRAL** 1 BR House with  
hardwood, washer/dryer, 2  
porches, fenced yard, and  
screen door. \$700 a month.  
Pets ok. Contact Travis @  
409-789-2970

**CENTRAL** San Pedro town-  
home/condo 2704 San Pedro  
spacious and private 2-2.5  
two story hardwoods covered  
reserved parking with caring  
neighbors. Call PMT 476-  
2673 608-2428

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Special! \$300 off 1st month!  
Immaculate 3-2 house - two  
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patio with French Doors,  
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posal. Cats and most dogs  
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\$995. 7006 Priscilla. Mat-  
thews Properties 454-0099,  
Rolando 731-6799,  
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**CENTRAL** 3Bed/2Ba close to  
U.T. 3Bed/1Ba. with new tile,  
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2Bed./2Ba. available.Call  
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**CENTRAL** 1/1 in quiet com-  
plex in old Austin residential  
neighborhood. Wood floors,  
walk-in closet. Paid Gas &  
Cable. On-site pool & Laun-  
dry. 5001 Bull Creek. 451-0414.

**CENTRAL** Why pay rent?  
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**CENTRAL** 3Bed/2Ba close to  
U.T. 3Bed/1Ba



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**CENTRAL** Hyde Park - Cozy 1 BR Apt. w/patio or balcony, vaulted ceilings, stained concrete floors, CACH, Paid Water. 450 sf. 4205 Speedway. \$575. 451-0414.

**CENTRAL** Terrytown - Large 2/1, 989 sf. Faux wood floors, Built-in bookshelf & brick accent walls in living room, Lots of Closet Space. Paid Gas & Cable. On-site Laundry. Pool. \$915. 1600 Enfield. 451-0414

**CENTRAL** New Year's Special! \$300 off 1st month! Best deal in wonderful neighborhood! Spacious (1,000+ sf) 2/1 in 6-plex, 1 covered parking, new stove & refrigerator, laundry onsite, no indoor smoking. Very quiet neighbors! Small pets welcome. \$850. 1504 Windsor Rd. (at Enfield Rd.) Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, rollolex@yahoo.com

**CENTRAL** near DT/Lake, Remodeled 2BD/1BTH, all appliances, W/D, hardwoods, covered parking, \$995. 2001 Griswold SPM 478-5588 shamrockrentals@yahoo.com

**DRIPPING SPRINGS** Panoramic views, 30 mins/dwn. rmtd. hilltop Ranch, 3200 sqft. \$1875. 888-556-9760

**MANOR** Lease/Lease to Own. 3/2, 2 weeks free. Just bought refrigerator and washer/dryer. Large backyard. Ready to Move-In. Premier Properties Realty. Christine (512) 293-2700.

**METRO**  
**EANES PROPERTIES**  
North  
• 8139-A Ceberry Dr. Great NC location duplex. 4 BD, 2.5 Bath. 1 car garage. Fenced yard. \$1150 mth.  
South  
• 4824 Norman Trail In Sendera PL. Large, treed backyard. Wood and tile flooring. Bowie HS. One story. 3 BD + 4th room, 2 Bath. \$1575 mth. includes lawn care.  
• Brand new home in Olympic Heights. 2 story. 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths. 2 living Areas. Lots of windows. Fenced Yard. Neighborhood

**Pool. \$1150 mth 2 FREE Weeks Rent w/Nov. 15th move in or sooner.**

**BUDA**  
• 2004 Built Home. 3 BDs, 2.5 Baths. Sprinkler system, wood blinds, large kitchen. Great community. Close to I-35 and new Cabellas. Ready Now. \$1295 mth. 259 Clarence Ct. Look under Property for Lease at http://www.EanesProperties.com for photos 263-7333 or 293-0276

**NORTH** 2/1.5, 2 living, Farmer/MoPac, near ADC, Riata, IBM, NI. Pets ok. \$950. 834-9567. blackdoggie.net

**NORTH** 3/2 with 2 car garage, 9223 Singing Quail, end unit, 1,500sqft., cathedral ceilings, master down, \$895. Call MRG (512) 443-2526.

**NORTH** For Lease - furnished 3bd/2bath 1400sqft home w/ vaulted ceilings, W/D, sofa, dining table/chairs, 2 beds. Near McNeil HS and Major High Tech Employers: Apple, Sun, Cisco, Selectron, Motive, FreeScale Semiconductor. No Smoker/No Pets. Available now! \$1600/mo. + util. Available Now! Call (866) 873-2486 and leave message.

**NORTH DUX** \$675 2/1 carport, WDconn, dishwasher, 458-4412. 7711A Meadowview

**NORTH** Change your life... change your address! Incredible makeover, 2-3 bedrooms w/tile floors, new carpet & paint, crown moulding, 1-car garage, fenced yard. All new appliances, sinks, light fixtures. Metric/Braker area, \$775-\$850. Available now or Prelease. Call today. PPM Pioneer Property Mgmt. (512) 293-2887.

**NORTH** 8516 Shenandoah, 3/2, 1 story house, 2 car garage, covered patio, new car-pet & paint, \$1050, 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

**NORTH** 3/2 one story home with huge yard, covered patio, garages & CHARM! In the Brushy Creek area. \$950. Photos: quigleyteam.com Realty World at 663-0538

**NORTHEAST**/Harris Branch 11306 Avering Lane Large 4 Bdrm/3 full bath, 2390 Sq Ft. 2 story house. A perfect house for a family in need of more space. 2-car garage, fireplace, newly built home. Contact Smooth Properties @ (512) 466-4786 Lee Brock for more info. \$1400

**NORTHWEST** 1 bedroom/ study/covered parking, close to Arboretum, \$650. 1 BR w/garage duplex \$625! Agent 512-422-0007

**NORTHWEST** Duplex for rent - \$900 a month, 2 bed/2 bath Great Location close to 183, Farmer and Lakeline Mall. Tile Throughout, Upgraded Fixtures, Designer Colors, Ceiling Fans, Garage and Large Trees on a corner lot. Call Kyle 512-663-2925 or go to www.787homes.com for pictures and more details.

**NORTHWEST** 2/1/1 duplex, \$750 mo/\$500 dep, avail. 2/1, 8709 Pineridge Dr., 996-0561

**PFLUGERVILLE** 3.2/1/2.2, Ref/W&D. Lrg corner lot fence. 1295/mo. 795-8024

**ROUND ROCK** 3/2 dplx, fenced yard, 1 car garage, fireplace, ceiling fans, & much more. \$750/mo. \$700 dep. Scowden Properties, Realtor. Call 255-6181

**ROUND ROCK** 2523 Tandl Trail. 4 bdr/2 bath/2 car garage, newly painted with fireplace, fenced yard. Large open kitchen. Utility room with W/D hookup. Owner will supply fridge & stove if needed. \$1200/mo. 512-441-1593

**SOUTH** duplex, \$795, 3404 Dalton St., 2 bd/2ba, stained concrete floors, large yard, Call Terry, Realtor, 512-789-8064

**SOUTH** Great central locale near St. Eds, SoCo, & Downtown. Unique 2-plex (no common walls!) Big, bright 2/1, almost 1,000sqft. Enjoy fireplace, gorgeous tile, vaulted ceilings, CACH, ceiling fans, private patio, plus shuttle/Metro at door! \$845mo. Water paid, Parker Lane. Owner, (512) 441-0941.

**SOUTH** Tanglewood Forest 2-1 Duplex, concrete finish flrs, FP, vaulted ceilings, sm fenced yard, good pets considered, \$795, 916-0018 Owner/agent.

**SOUTH** avail Feb 1st, 4bdrm/2ba, avail 4/1 - 2bdrm/1 ba, small pet ok, section 8 ok, \$1100 & \$850. Deposit req. negotiable, 512-554-3065

**SOUTH** 9500 Bear Paw unit B, Near Airport, 2/1 duplex with 1 car garage, vaulted ceilings, FP in living room, small back yard, \$750 474-1470 Brad@beckandco.com Beck & Co.

**SOUTH CENTRAL** in Onion Creek. 10705 Pinehurst. Cute 4BD/2BTH, 2 living, 2 dining, 2 car garage, covered patio, fireplace, sprinler system and much more. Will du short term 3-6 month lease. Give me a call for more info at 825-4663. Cindy Spears at Lanier Realty. Go to: www.cindyspears.com

**SOUTH** Available March 1. 1508 Rockdale Circle. 2 bed, 2 bath Duplex. Vaulted ceilings, indoor laundry connects., carport, fenced yard, dogs ok. \$700. Call new management. 476-6616 or 497-8282

**SOUTH TRAVIS HEIGHTS** CLASSIC COTTAGE! Half off 1st month's rent! Fully remodeled 1947's cottage. Swanky kitchen, gorgeous pecan hardwood floors, Private Fenced yard, 2-1, office, 1 large open living, CACH, pets considered. Total \$1495/mo. Owner/Agent, 916-0018.

**SOUTH** 107-A Meteor \$795/mo. \$500 dep. 3/2, fresh paint, ceramic tile, inside utl. fenced. Call Janet 441-9900

**SOUTH CENTRAL** 4414 Dudley 3-2-2, CACH, W/D connect., fenced yard. Avail. now \$1100; 3202 Whites Dr. 3-2-1 CACH remodeled kitchen \$950. 658-9493 www.cbimanagement.com

**SOUTHWEST** 4-Plex, walking to everything. 2/1 W/D conns, \$525 +2nd mth FREE. 587-5090 greg@atxrelo.com

**SOUTHWEST** Oak Hill, Scenic Brook area, 4/2/2 with large deck, oversized garage, 3/4 acre lot, master bedroom downstairs. New carpet/tile, \$1,195. Call MRG (512) 443-2526.

**SOUTHWEST** 3114 Honey Tree, Westlake 3/2/2. Hardwood floors, pool and hot tub maintained, covered deck, custom wood paneling, cathedral ceiling, track lighting, intercom system, wood shutters. \$1,795. Call MRG 443-2526.

**WELLS BRANCH** For Lease in Wells Branch - \$1,495 per month for this beautiful 3/2.5/2 two story home! 2,687 sq. ft. Backs to hike and bike trail. Close to schools and shopping! Contact Kathy or Winona at 448-5866.

**225 VACATION**

**PORT ARANSAS** - ON THE BEACH Sleeps 8-In town-fantastic views! huge deck-daily, weekly, monthly Perfect for family or corporate gatherings! Thirdcoastpirates@centurytel.net or 361-533-3595

**WEST REPO!** Attention Hunters! 100 acres approximately 200 miles west of San Antonio in the Langtry/Pandale area. Small down and Low monthly payments. Long-term financing available by owner. Good brush coverage for deer, turkey, quail, and dove. Additional acreage available. 210-654-2476.

Rare opportunity for an owner occupied duplex in Northwest Hills. Hill country view & pool. Side A is approx. 1500 sf, 1 story, 2/2. Side B is approx. 2000 sf, 3/2.5 w/wood floors. Both have updated kitchens & 2 car garages. See the virtual tour at [www.mngarrison.com](http://www.mngarrison.com).  
**\$489,000**  
**LORI GALLOWAY, 633-3882**

**OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 2-4**  
Darling French Place home at great price! 2/1/2 w/ large yard. \$189K. Hardwoods and tile. Utility room & all appliances. Rebecca, 415-9876. 1715 E. 38 1/2 St.

**HOME GALLERY**

**805 Bassington Ct.** Lovely limestone 4/2.5/3, 2702 s.f. home on oversized cul-de-sac lot in Pflugerville. Formal living/dining, tiled island kitchen open to family/game room upstairs. \$197,500  
Cakk Fred Meyers 517.2300 or visit [www.fredmeyersaustinhomes.com](http://www.fredmeyersaustinhomes.com)

**6613 CAT CREEK TRAIL** Hip 1748 sq. ft. 3/2.5 condo in close-in location. Open pln, grnblt views, stned concrete flrs, maple cabnits, new crpt & paint, amzng deck. \$319,900  
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**PFLUGERVILLE 1210 Canna Lily**  
3 bdrm 2 bath perfect conditioned house. NG/CA. Built 1999. 4 sided Masonry, new Carpet, Tile, Vinyl, separate shower, jetted Tub, landscaped yard, close to schools. \$1,050/mth Available 2-1-06. Call 512-252-2198 or oekpootu@cox-internet.com.

**SAGE CREEK LOOP** - Coolest new community on the edge of Travis Heights, last 3 of 18 homes avail... Prices 399,900 to 445,000; For more information contact: Nancy Taute w/ Carol Dochen Realtors, Inc. 512-497-5940. [nancy@dochen.com](http://nancy@dochen.com). [WWW.BILLTAUTEHOMES.COM](http://WWW.BILLTAUTEHOMES.COM) Open weekends 2-5; Directions: S on Congress, E on Live Oak, N on Sage Creek Loop  
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**KRDB** Mixed use project in North Loop Neighborhood Four ground-level commercial units (900-1300sf) Four second-story residential units (1100-1800sf)  
For info call: 512.791.1584  
**SATSUMA 53** [www.satsuma53.com](http://www.satsuma53.com)

**CALL CINDY SPEARS AT LANIER REALTY 825-4663. GO TO: WWW.CINDYSPEARS.COM**  
**ROUND ROCK 1616 Hueco Mountain 3 BR, 2.5 BTHs, 2 dining with a fireplace, vaulted ceilings, patio, extra deck on a corner lot. This is a must see!**

**Call Cindy Spears at Lanier Realty: 825-4663. Go to: www.cindyspears.com**  
This mini farm sits on 39+ acres and is just minutes from Austin & the airport. Landscaped yard surrounds the house and garden area with 2 ponds and crops of pecan trees. Nice views & breezes with patios, greenhouse and workshop. 3BD/2BTHs. vaulted ceilings and it's the In-law plan, \$317,000

**OPEN HOUSE Sunday 12-4**  
221 Goodnight Trail Move in now! Landscaped. Expansive views, large, tiered decks. 1 mile north of Dripping Springs off RR12. 3 beds/3 bath. Formal dining and break. area. Quality finishes: Granite, tile, wood, stainless. Luxury Master Suite. \$370,000. 512-422-6381  
**JACKIE MALOY** [www.jackiemaloy.biz](http://www.jackiemaloy.biz) **KELLER WILLIAMS**

**OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 11-1**  
3002 Fontana Drive 78704 offered at 205,000. 3/1 with tile throughout living, dining, and kitchen. Cute kitchen with tile backsplash and glass cabinets. Walking distance to St. Eds, Amy's, and Penn Field.  
**Julie Alexander, Keller Williams, 512.762.8211 (mobile)** [www.teamalexander.com](http://www.teamalexander.com)



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## COMMERCIAL

**CENTRAL** Furnished Therapist office, massage, Physiotherapy or acupuncture, ABP, waiting room, \$200/mo. 698-6339

**CENTRAL** Affordable Therapist's Room PT (Massage or Psychotherapy) ABP Central. Beautiful, 470-6525.

**CENTRAL** 7801 North Lamar, D-77. 2 rooms avl in office w/civil engineer. Use of copier, fax, phone system, furniture. \$550/mo ABP. 497-5592

**CENTRAL** Furnished Therapist office, massage, Physiotherapy or acupuncture, ABP, waiting room, \$200/mo. 698-6339

**CENTRAL** Courtney Shops - 5453 Burnet Road - great space for antique business or gift shop. Includes large yard for additional display area and small storeroom. \$750. Approx. 800 sf +/-, Matthews Properties 454-0099, Nancy 914-1233, nancylemmons@yahoo.com

**CENTRAL** Courtyard Shops - 5453 Burnet Road - great space for antique business or gift shop. Includes large yard for additional display area and small storeroom. \$750. Approx. 800 sf +/-, Matthews Properties 454-0099, Nancy 914-1233, nancylemmons@yahoo.com

**SOUTH** SOCO studio, \$375. Restroom, AC, great loc. near Ruta Maya 24 hr access. Min, 6 mo. lease. 443.9224.

**SOUTH** SoCo studio, 800sqft. High ceilings, double doors, stained concrete. \$595/mo. 443.9224

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## ROOMMATES

**CENTRAL** Need a ROOMMATE Fast? Austin's #1 ROOMMATE SERVICE has 1000's of listings. ROOMMATEXPRESS.COM. 800-487-8050

**CENTRAL** Resp. roommate for 2BR house, close to UT, DT, shops. Yard.WD. Wireless. Have cat. Avail.Jan.East.\$400 + 1/2 Sarah 784-0528

**CENTRAL** Artist, 30's, veg., smoker, cats seeks temp.roomy for Feb./March/April? Must have reg.\$ & transport. \$450 abp + dep. 708-9571.

**CENTRAL** preferably nice, female student. \$350 includes all bills! cable,sbc,w/d, near UT! contact elisa: 451-4796, zeslickchick@yahoo.com

**CENTRAL** Dream house, amazing 30ft ceilings,priv porch ctryard,laundry,1 blk to Guad, near campus,Hyde Park,nice! 1 rmmate 351.4440.

**CENTRAL** Great location near downtown! Large bedroom w/private bath. Creative-type/musician preferred. 350.00 + 1/4 bills. Cris 633.6986

**CENTRAL** Hyde Park Roommate needed \$675. 4br 2.5 bath, washer/dryer, hardwoods, maint. garden. Great location call 474-8742.

**CENTRAL** You are looking For a room? 1000s of rooms & roommates. From \$200/Mo www.easyroommate.com

**CENTRAL** roomie wanted. 2bed/1bath. buses 1 3 & 5. private door. 375/mo abp. avail feb 1. art friendly, good vibes. pets neg. 512 2207570

**CENTRAL** WESTLAKE 5 minutes to Dwn'tn, 4/2.5, pool, near schools, on bus route. \$395 (includes most utilities) 347-1671.

**CENTRAL** You have a room for rent? Advertise for free on www.easyroommate.com

**CENTRAL** eco friendly, private bath, shared gas kitchen, min 6mth lease www.2203greenwood.com 476-7809

**EAST** New house in nice neighborhood, located 9.6 miles east of U.T. campus. Nicely furnished with washer, dryer, cable, + interne. Feel free to call and ask questions, 947-0117, \$325 + 1/3 bills.

**HAYS CO.** Lease now till Aug w/2 girls.1st month paid! \$317/month + 1/3 elec 3bd/3ba new townhome. 917-6722

**LAKE NORTH** Live at the Lake- \$500! huge 3/2 on 3 acres,dock,boat,more. 2 artists with day jobs, looking for creative, responsible people. 512-419-9321.

**METRO** ALL AREAS - ROOMMATES.COM. Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: www.Roommates.com. (AAN CAN)

**NORTH** Parmer & Metric area \$400.00 a month, 1/Utilities,pets ok, no smoking. DNorcross@Austin.rr.com Debra 507-8909 Alice 796-8874

**NORTH** Furn. 1/1 in 3/2 home avail immed. 6 mo min, \$200 dep., \$500/mo inclds utl, cable. Like cats, deck, fplc. 795-9298 - leave mssg.

**NORTH** Large, sunny room for rent. 620/183 area, built-in bookshelves, walk-in closet, new carpet, more, \$495 Art 512/335-2783.

**NORTH** You are looking For a room? 1000s of rooms & roommates. From \$200/Mo www.easyroommate.com

**NORTH** Need FEMALE Rommie to Share 2/2 apt. \$350 plus util., \$100 dep. laid back, quiet and safe, high-speed internet, cable, laundry facility. 374-0084

**NORTH** 3rd house mate needed, 425 abp w/dep (wd,dsl,hd cable) rosedale area, open minded, avail 01/01/06 512-695-9776

**CENTRAL** central furnished room in 3 Bedroom house, privelges to washer/dryer, jacuzzi and kitchen, must love dogs (i have two mid-sized!), prefer gay male or liberal minded male but not excluding females, NO PARTY ANIMALS!! \$400.00 per month/ABP, call 339-8504, leave message.

**NORTHEAST** seeking clean respectful roommate for harmonious environment. \$465 ABP. Cable, internet included. Parmer/135 North. Access to 290/Harris Branch. Must love small dogs. 297-7515

**NORTHWEST** Room for rent in nw Austin. \$500 all bills incl.947-4713

**NORTHWEST** Near Lake Travis. Share 3-2. N/S, no pets. \$325.00/mo.+ \$150.00 depos. + 1/3 utilities. 512-266-0963 cell 512-779-7833.

**PFLUGERVILLE** Unfurnshd bedroom in fully furnished home-\$400.00+deposit.Prvt. bedroom & bath. #656-4123/Suzanne@encorecs.com.

**SAN MARCOS** Roommate needed for 2bd/1.5 bath. \$340.00. All bills paid, 2 miles from TX State Univ. Must be neat/no pets. contact:512.299.4427

**SOUTH** Big new house 4/2.5 w/ pool table, seeking clean roommate \$350+ utilities 448-4491

**SOUTH** Two female roomies, looking for third to share soon to be 4 bdrm house near st. eds. 512-791-3642 or 512-294-3436.

**SOUTH** You are looking For a room? 1000s of rooms & roommates. From \$200/Mo www.easyroommate.com

**SOUTHEAST** Student Apt. \$375/m. Thru May31st. Free internet & Cable.Private Bath. Free Rent Jan!

**SOUTHEAST** Seeking female(gay or gay friendly) to rent one bedroom with bath in private home. \$350.00 a month. Bills paid. 276-1162

**SOUTHWEST** Only \$390. Huge badass house w/pool table. We want a clean, cool roommate. Check it out 627-3760 or 6273760@gmail.com.

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## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**BASTROP** Search 8K+ homes on-line! New homes, up to \$30K in free upgrades. Foreclosures=Great deals. Resale homes, use grants for \$0 down! 785-9157, agt. http://www.MrDreamHome.com

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**RENTALS** BEST BUY Hotlist Reveals 10 Best Buys in your specific price range. Free detailed information at http://www.CityOfAustinHomes.com Coldwell Banker United, Realtors. 512-507-9113

**CENTRAL** Agent-David Lot-speich RE/MAX Capital City Real Estate Consultant, for all your Real Estate needs. Contact me at 636-8801 houseishome@yahoo.com www.austinhouseishome.com

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**CENTRAL** OPEN HOUSE Sunday 01/15, 1-5pm. 2833 Pearl St. West Campus. Hard wood floors, CA/CH, 2 bed 1 bath. 1925 Bungalow, updated bath and kitchen. Call Candace at 468-2687

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porches,Open family/dining/

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cabinets, granite galore, main

floor mstr suites, great

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**Taute w/ Carol Dochen**

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# to YOUR HEALTH

by James Heffley, Ph.D.

Q. My doctor diagnosed me with IBS a few months ago. In spite of treatment it just seems to be getting worse and worse. I have taken a medical leave of absence from work to see if I can get it under control. What else can I do?

A. Irritable bowel syndrome is a common problem, affecting perhaps 20% of Americans, and is more common in women than men. Symptoms usually include abdominal pain, bloating, and constipation or diarrhea or both. IBS is also called functional bowel syndrome, irritable colon, spastic bowel, and spastic colon (the colon is the large intestine).

Even if your primary care physician has made a diagnosis of IBS, you might want to go to a gastroenterologist, a doctor who specializes in the treatment of the gastrointestinal tract, for a second opinion. The diagnosis of IBS is generally made on the basis of symptoms and medical history. Symptoms of IBS generally cannot be traced to a single cause, so there is no specific test for IBS. However, there are tests now available that can distinguish between IBS and ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, celiac disease, or bowel cancer, which are intestinal problems with similar symptoms that require different treatment.

Research suggests that people with IBS are more sensitive than others to a variety of things, including certain foods and to stress, and the colon responds to these triggers with pain. The colon has many nerves that connect it to the brain, and it also uses some of the same neurotransmitters, so emotions can strongly affect the workings of the colon.

The colon (large intestine) normally harbors a very large and varied population of bacteria, but abnormal overgrowth of these same bacteria in the small intestine has been found in about three-fourths of patients with IBS. A promising new treatment for IBS is the antibiotic Rifaximin. Unlike most antibiotics that are absorbed by the blood stream and travel to other parts of the body, Rifaximin stays in the gut and kills bacteria in the intestinal tract.

There may be other ways of changing the intestinal bacteria. While the scientific evidence is incomplete, ongoing research indicates that probiotics, the live friendly bacteria that should inhabit only the large intestine, and prebiotics, nondigestible food ingredients that encourage the growth of probiotic organisms, both individually and in combination, improve IBS.

Adding bran as a fiber supplement has been the traditional mainstay in the dietary treatment of IBS, but IBS sufferers often react poorly to such traditional ways of increasing fiber. Calcium polycarbophil, available without prescription as FiberCon, is a more gentle way of adding bulk; it reduces abdominal pain and improves the symptoms in both the diarrhea-predominant type and constipation-predominant type of IBS.

Alternative therapies, such as acupuncture and hypnotherapy, have been clinically tested and can be used alongside conventional medical care. When choosing any alternative therapist, make sure that you ask about their qualifications, experience, and membership in professional bodies.

James Heffley, Ph.D., is a certified clinical nutritionist. The information he provides is for educational use only. If you believe you have a medical problem, see your physician.

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**GENERAL** NOW OPEN. Relax - Relieve - Enjoy. Swedish Massage, Deep & Soft Tissue, Full Body Massage, hot stone treatment. Bee Cave Rd, quiet office. RMT#39907. Call 698-1615 or 905-7668

**GENERAL** Lower back specialty. Same day only. South Austin. Call Jen, Cell: 203-7271, 10A-10P & Later. RMT#7400

**GENERAL** RMT#31534 \*\*\*M A S S A G E\*\*\* THE 3RD BEST THING KATHLEEN..445-0280.....

**GENERAL** Comfortable, quiet, considerate, careful and thoughtful. 470-6525 (RMT013588).

**GENERAL** A Great Massage for Men by Bob. North location (RMT#013795) Call 9am-10pm, 7 days/week. (512) 296-4111.

**GENERAL** SOOTHING MASSAGE. Experienced, professional. N. Austin/Jollyville Rd. M-Sat. 10am-7pm. Cash only. 372-9530. RMT 042276.

**GENERAL** HANDS DOWN BEST MASSAGE in town! For total relaxation. Call Kim, by appt only, 833-6690. RMT 023154

**GENERAL** HANDS DOWN BEST MASSAGE in town! For total relaxation. Call Kim, by appt only, 833-6690. RMT 023154

**GENERAL** Relax, Massage, Heal through Massage, Reiki or Hypnosis. Caring, intuitive and professional. Call Randy 328-0760 \* www.3pillars.com (RMT #004582)

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Experience the Peace of a Quiet Mind & Resting Heart.  
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**GENERAL** Therapeutic relief. In/Out calls, 9am-7pm daily. Eva, (cell) 585-6090, (hm) 282-4426.. RMT#3830.

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First Choice in Relaxation  
"Sense-sational"  
Heavenly Full Body  
Arboretum Area M-F,10-6  
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South - 300 S. Lamar  
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\$40 for 50 min Intro Special.  
or \$65 for 90 minutes  
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(MT039068)

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The State of Texas Department of Health requires registration numbers for individuals who practice massage. These registration numbers are included in all ads within the therapy section. They are as follows: TR = Temporary Registration is a temporary licensed number which is good for six months as a registered massage therapist in Texas. RMT = Registered Massage Therapist or MT = Massage Therapist, which is the permanent registration number once all state tests have been passed. ME = Massage Establishment, which is a place of business that offers licensed

massage therapy and has a licensed massage therapist on site of the business establishment. MI = Massage Instructor, an individual who is a registered massage therapist approved by the State of Texas to offer instruction to 1 or more students of massage therapy. Any concerns should be directed to the Texas Department of Health in Austin at 512-834-6616

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**SPORTS** Grateful Day Massage Fitness Trainer specializing in sports, pain, relief, and deep relaxation. 496-1790. Draping req'd. No calls after 8pm. www.gratefuldaymassage.com RMT#040831.

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**SPORTS** Professional Massage Therapist. Sports, Deep Tissue, Relaxing Swedish. Holiday Gift Certificates Available! (TR46621) (non-sexual massage) Mike @ (512) 415-1620 massage4austin.com

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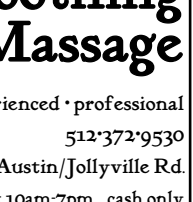
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Incall/Hotel Outcall  
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Fitness trainer specializing in sports, pain relief and deep relaxation  
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RMT #42743  
75 Minutes \$50  
1 Hour only \$40  
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**\$40/HR.**  
INCALL / \$60 HR. OUTCALL  
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# NOTICES

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all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 150, Lago Vista Country Club Estates, Section 1, Plat No. 38/22 as described in Volume 6212, Page 968 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$11,275.98** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

### BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS".

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## 535 LOST & FOUND

**LOST CAT** 51st/Duval. gray/white longhair w/bushy tail & spotted nose. 512.868.7031.

**LOST DOG** Lost Christmas night in Kinney/Lamar Area. "Indy" chow/shepherd cross, 80lbs, 11 yrs old neutered male, shy. Please call Anna 505-770-4177.

## 545 LEGAL NOTICES

424536

### CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

#### REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 147th District Court of Travis County, on the 6th day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered 424536, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Leon P. Templet, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Leon P. Templet are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$11,275.98** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 147th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 17, 2001.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder,

**Tract 1: Billing Number 43620**

**Lot 6, Block 9, Mountain View, Plat No. 4/243 as described in Volume 8413, Page 948 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas**

**Tract 2: Billing Number 43685**

**Lot 26, Block 12, Mountain View, Plat No. 4/243 as described in Volume 8459, Page 925 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract 1: Billing Number 43620 = \$5,523.92 and Tract 2: Billing Number 43685 = \$4,272.02** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

93-07199

### CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

#### REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered 93-07199, wherein County Education District, Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and John C. Koch, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of John C. Koch are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$7,646.64** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on February 3, 1999.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 2832, Lago Vista Country Club Estates, Section 10, Plat No. 48/84 as described in Volume 8035, Page 727 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$7,646.64** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY

AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**Castro Homes & Properties E.P. Inc., Rob Castro, Director DBA Cafe CastroNova is Making Application with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Beer and Wine Retailer's Permit and a Food and Beverage Certificate On the Address of 900 Ranch Road 620 South, Suite C104, Lakeway, Travis County, Texas.**

**CAUSE NO. 77,449  
GUARDIANSHIP OF  
FRANKIE LEE LODKEY, AN  
INCAPACITATED PERSON  
IN THE PROBATE COURT  
NUMBER ONE OF TRAVIS  
COUNTY, TEXAS**

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Guardianship for the Successor Guardian of the Person and Estate of FRANKIE LEE LODKEY, an Incapacitated Person, were issued on November 16, 2005, in Cause No. 77,449, in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to DEBORAH GREEN, as Guardian of the Person and Estate of FRANKIE LEE LODKEY.

The residence of the Guardian is in Austin, Travis County, Texas, the post office address is: c/o The Law Offices of Deborah Green & Kris Hochfelder, L.L.P., 7200 N. MoPac, Suite 300, Austin, Texas 78731.

All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 3rd day of January, 2006.

By: /s/ Deborah Green

Guardian of the Person and Estate of Frankie Lee Lodkey

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**  
To all persons interested in the estate of Alice Allen, Deceased, Cause No. 06-0006-CP4, in County Court at Law No. 4 of Williamson County, Texas.

Barbara Collins, applicant, in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 5th day of January, 2006 an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 145(E) OF THE TEXAS PROBATE CODE of the said estate and requests that the said court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ALICE ALLEN, DECEASED, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

All persons are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at 9:00 a.m. on January 26, 2006, by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

Respectfully submitted,  
Martin J. Cirkiel  
Bar No. 00783829  
1901 E. Palm Valley Blvd.  
Round Rock, TX 78664

(512) 244-6658  
(512) 244-6014 (Fax)

### CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF DOROTHY RAY MANSFIELD FINGER, Deceased, No. 84089 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

ROXANNE FINGER GREEN alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 30th day of DECEMBER, 2005, an Application to Determine Heirship and for Letters of Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said DOROTHY RAY MANSFIELD FINGER, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 3rd day of January, 2006.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

County Clerk

Travis County, Texas

P.O. Box 1748

Austin, Texas 78767

By Deputy: /s/ Alan Serrano

### CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF EDWARD JOSEPH TATOM, Deceased, No. 83359 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

CAROL J MOOR alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 25th day of JULY, 2005, an Application to Determine Heirship and an Application For Independent Administration and Letters of Administration in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said EDWARD JOSEPH TATOM, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 28th day of December, 2005.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

County Clerk

Travis County, Texas

P.O. Box 1748

Austin, Texas 78767

By Deputy: /s/ M. C. Arzola

### CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

Cause No. D-1-FM-06-000093

To: ANTHONY D DOLAN and to all whom it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation

by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 345th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE filed in said court on JANUARY 6, 2006, and said suit being number D-1-FM-06-000093 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF FRANCINE T DOLAN and ANTHONY D DOLAN ET AL, and In the Interest of MALACHI TY DOLAN, CHILD". The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties, appoint managing and possessory conservators, and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, January 06, 2006.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA

Travis County District Clerk

Travis County Courthouse

1000 Guadalupe

P.O. Box 679003 (78767)

Austin, Texas 78701

By /s/ Alice Harris, Deputy

Requested By:

JAMES L ARTH

700 LAVACA ST STE 1150

AUSTIN, TX 78701

BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 479-8989

### CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

**Cause No. D-1-FM-05-008195**

To: ADAM DENNIS TERRY and to all whom it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 201ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of MARYWOOD PETITIONER(s), filed in said court on DECEMBER 22, 2005, against ADAM DENNIS TERRY Respondent(s), and said suit being entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF CAYLE LEANNE ROSE WILSON A CHILD" the nature of which suit is a request to terminate the parent-child relationship. The Name, Birth date, and Place of Birth of said child is as follows: CAYLE LEANNE ROSE WILSON DECEMBER 6, 2005 AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said

court at Austin, Texas, January 09, 2006.  
AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA  
Travis County District Clerk  
Travis County Courthouse  
1000 Guadalupe  
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)  
Austin, Texas 78701  
By /s/ Jon Sanders, Deputy  
REQUESTED BY:  
OLIVER C. PERKINS  
110 EAST 31ST ST  
AUSTIN, TX 78705  
BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 477-4734

### CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

**Cause No. GN503950**

To: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JOHN HENDERSON, DECEASED Defendant(s), in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 AM on the Monday next following the expiration 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock AM of Monday the 23rd day of January, 2006, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 345th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas, on the 1st day of November, 2005, a default judgment may be taken against you. Said suit being number GN503950, in which DOROTHY BROWN Plaintiff(s) and THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JOHN HENDERSON, DECEASED Defendant(s) and the nature of which suit is as follows:

claim for trespass to try title and request that the court determine and declare that Plaintiff owns fee simple title to the following real property and that you have no title in and to such property: Lots Nos. Seven and Eight (7 & 8) in Block No. One (1) of M.E. Chernosky's Subdivision No. Ten (10), of a Part of Outlot No. 20, Division "B", in the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas, according to the Map or plat of said subdivision of record in Volume 4, Page 200 of the Travis County Plat Records, locally known as 1709 and 1711 Deloney Street, Austin, Texas.

ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES.

Issued and Given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Austin, this 6th day of December, 2005.

Amalia Rodriguez-Mendoza District Clerk

Travis County, Texas

By /s/ Synthia Lee, Deputy

Requested By:

PETE MEEKER

1801 SOUTH MOPAC EXP-WY, SUITE 300

AUSTIN, TX 78768

(512) 482-0614

GV-102181

### CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

#### REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-102181, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin and Travis County are plaintiffs, and Anna Banda, Individually and as Dependent Administrator of the Estate of Maria Jordon Banda, Deceased, Diego Banda, Minor Dependent, Fernando Banda and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$7,217.61** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 1, 2004.







CONTINUED

**545**

**LEGAL NOTICES**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$2,527.04** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY

THE COMMON LAW

by Luke Ellis

The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

**AUSTIN SMOKING ORDINANCE –  
IS THE SMOKER OR  
BAR OWNER AT FAULT?**

*I'm a smoker. One of the bars that I like to hang out in still allows people to smoke even though the smoking ordinance is now in effect. Can I get in trouble for smoking in the bar, or does the ordinance only punish the bar owner?*

Whether you love it or hate it, the new Austin Smoking Ordinance took effect on Sept. 1, 2005. And while most people know that the smoking ordinance is in place, many still have lots of questions about exactly what the ordinance says. One of the most common questions is, who will the smoking ordinance be enforced against – the smoker or the bar that permits it?

The express language of the smoking ordinance suggests that both the smoker and the bar could be responsible for a violation of the ordinance. For example, section 10-6-2 (a) of the ordinance states: "a person commits an offense if the person smokes in a public place." Alternatively, section 10-6-2 (e) states that "the owner or operator of a public place commits an offense if the person fails to take necessary steps to prevent or stop another person from smoking in an enclosed area in a public place."

From a practical standpoint, however, current enforcement of the smoking ordinance is focused on the bar owners and operators rather than the individual smokers. For example, the city of Austin's "Frequently Asked Questions" regarding the smoking ordinance states that the owner or person in charge of the public place will be the one responsible for a violation.

Moreover, the city suggests that anyone who wants to complain about a violation of the smoking ordinance contact the Environmental and Consumer Health Unit at 972-5600. Assuming violations of the smoking ordinance are reported to the ECHU, than there is no instantaneous enforcement of the smoking ordinance. Under those circumstances it is the bar owner or operator, rather than the smoker, who will ultimately be the person fined for the smoking ordinance violation.

Read next week's column for more issues regarding the smoking ordinance.

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to [thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com](mailto:thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com). Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns.

amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 2, 2004.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 797, Country Club Estates, Section 5, Plat No. 47/41 as described in Volume 10471, Page 490 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$4,708.66** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-302352

**CONSTABLE'S  
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY  
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53rd District Court of Travis County, on the 3rd day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-302352, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Otto K. Weaver, Trustee of the Otto K. Weaver Trust (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$2,682.31** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the

amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 2, 2004.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 1023, Lago Vista Estates, Section 4, Plat No. 47/71, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 5254, Page 2191, Probate Cause No. 46,994 and Volume 11271, Page 177 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$2,682.31** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-303564

**CONSTABLE'S  
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY  
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 3rd day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered GV-303564, wherein Lake Travis Independent School District, County Education District, Travis County, Travis

County Emergency Services District No. 6, Travis County Farm to Market Road, Water Control Improvement District No. 17 and City of Austin are plaintiffs, and Mary Allison Talley Lorimer, Helen Katherine Talley and Anne Drusilla Talley Morris are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$5,481.84** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 24, 2004.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 583, Apache Shores, Section 2, Plat No. 48/58 as described in Volume 8013, Page 321 and Probate Cause No. 55,623 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$5,481.84** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-402159, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Robert Burns Ritchey are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$2,822.19** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 19, 2004.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$2,822.19** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 19, 2004.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-303615

**CONSTABLE'S  
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY  
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345th District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-303615, wherein Lake Travis Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 6, County Education District, Travis County Farm to Market Road and Water Control Improvement District No. 17 are plaintiffs, and Jon L. Vanleer, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Jon L. Vanleer are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$6,775.92** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 26, 2004.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 54, Cardinal Hills Estates, Unit 15, Plat No. 52/13 as described in Volume 4378,**

**Page 900 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$6,775.92** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-402159

**CONSTABLE'S  
NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY  
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered GV-402159, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Robert Burns Ritchey are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$2,822.19** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 19, 2004.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$2,822.19** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 19, 2004.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR

SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**LEGAL NOTICES**

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE accepts LEGAL NOTICES at the low rate of \$21 per column inch.

Notarized affidavits of publication and audited circulation statements are provided upon request.

Call Jessica @ 512-454-5765 ext. 168 for more info.

**NO. 83,944 ESTATE OF NANCY STERNLICHT, DECEASED**

**PROBATE COURT NO. 1 OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that on the 20th day of December, 2005, Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of NANCY STERNLICHT, Deceased, were issued to DIANA COLLINSWORTH WADE AKA DIANA COLLINSWORTH, as Independent Executrix of said Estate, in proceedings in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, numbered 83,944, and pending in said Court and that she now holds such Letters.

All persons having claims against the Estate are hereby required to present the same to the said DIANA COLLINSWORTH, as Independent Executrix of said Estate, at the post office address given below and within the time prescribed by law.

The residence of said Independent Executrix is in the City of Houston, Harris County, Texas, and her post office address is as follows:  
**MS. DIANA COLLINSWORTH  
4833 KINGLET DRIVE  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77035**

Dated the 3rd day of January, 2006.

John Kahanek III, Professional Corporation  
By: /s/ John Kahanek III  
Attorney for Independent Executrix  
3100 Wesleyan - Suite 250  
Houston, Texas 77027  
State Bar No. 11070500

**NOTICE  
OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE  
TO PROPOSERS  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS**

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Transportation and Extradition Services, RFS S060041-OJ  
Opens: January 23, 2006 @ 3:00 p.m.

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: [www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp](http://www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp). Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

**NOTICE I** am looking for the following people who are believed to reside in state Texas The daughters of Mrs. Lois Christina and Ray Moore: Lois Moore and her two sisters And the son of John McNaughton Cameron: Mr. John (Will) Cameron

Anyone with information regarding the above, please contact Laurie Salvador, Executrix of the Estate of Kathryn Margaret Bremness at (250) 655-6555 or by email, [laurie@salvador-davis.com](mailto:laurie@salvador-davis.com).

**NOTICE  
OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE  
TO BIDDERS**

**TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS**  
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by

Travis County for the following items:  
1. Culvert Pipe, IFB B060090-DR  
Opens: January 30, 2006 @ 10:00 a.m.  
2. Sheriff's Uniforms, IFB B060078-LD  
Opens: January 30, 2006 @ 2:00 p.m.  
**AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 20, 2006 @ 10:00 A.M.**

Bids should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400 P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: [www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp](http://www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp).

Bidders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payments may be made by check. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

**NOTICE  
OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS  
IFB NUMBER: B060025-MB**

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the Replacement of HVAC System Components at the Granger Building located at 314 W. 11th Street, Austin, Texas 78701, a project consisting of replacement of two HVAC components at the Travis County Granger Building, will be received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, at the **Travis County Purchasing Office, 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701 until 2:00 P.M., CST, JANUARY 18, 2006**, then publicly opened and read aloud. **Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office, will serve as the OFFICIAL CLOCK for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of bids.**

Copies of plans and specifications may be obtained from the **TRAVIS COUNTY PURCHASING OFFICE**. A refundable deposit of **\$25.00** in the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County" will be required for each set of bid documents that is issued. **The deposit will be refunded if the drawings and specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening.** Copies of plans and specifications may be viewed free of charge in the Travis County Purchasing Office. In addition, plans and specifications will be made available for viewing free of charge at various Austin-area Plan Rooms indicated in Exhibit 1.

A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount will be required. Payments will be made for completed work in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment until final acceptance of the project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one-hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one-hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$100,000. Bidder should use lump sum pricing. Historically Underutilized Businesses including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations, all Federal, State, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards.

The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive an informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened.

**NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR**



WHEEL-CLACK ACT, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 10 DAYS.  
GARAGE KEEPER: SOUTHSIDE WRECKER, 4308 TERRY O LANE, AUSTIN, TX.  
1992 MERCURY 1MEPM6075NNH645315  
1951 JEEP WAGONEER FR7152047  
1994 KAWASAKI MULE JK1AFCC16RB502080  
E Z GO GOLF CART 992362

**NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES** Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle(s), the following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction if not claimed within 30 days.

**Garagekeeper:**  
**A&A WRECKER AND RECOVERY, LLC**  
2963 B MANOR ROAD  
AUSTIN, TX 78722  
(512)670-7578

93 Chevy Lumina  
LP# 121BXH (Iowa)  
VIN# 2G1W154T3P9231745

**NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES** Pursuant to the Texas abandoned vehicle motor act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off by the Travis County Sheriff's Office unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1. unknown owner  
'89 Ford Escort  
VIN# 1FAPP9590KW298917  
2. owner: Michael Myers  
1976 Datsun, LP# V93 CRW  
VIN# HLS30274030

**NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES** Pursuant to the Texas abandoned motor vehicle act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off by Central Towing, 7400 FM 969, Austin, TX 78724 unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1. 1977 Holiday Rambler S78116552430975 3XZR627 (CA)  
2. 20 ft homemade trailer none none  
3. 1993 Mazda JM1BG263P0601107 none  
4. 1985 Buick 4dr 1G4BP697XFX411157 none  
5. 1995 Saturn 4dr 1G8ZF5281SZ359114 none  
6. 1990 Dodge PK BT7FLZ6XXLS727964 none  
7. 1987 Toyota 2dr JT2ST67L7H7151609 none

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS Texas Holdings, LTD., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien pursuant to chapter 59 of the Texas property code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards, **NO CHECKS**, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 24th & 25th of JANUARY, 2006 at each self-storage facility at which it is described below: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE.**

**9:30 a.m. 24 JANUARY, 2006 Public Storage @ 7200 S. First St., Austin, TX 78745**

L334 LAUREN CRISP DRESSER, VCR, GRILL

U624 JUSTIN WARD OFFICE CHAIR, SOFA, BED

U637 EUGENE VRANA BED, MATTRESS, BOXES

U664 EUSTOLIO TREVINO LAWNMOWER, BOXES, FISH-ING EQUIP.

J277 JUAN MACIEL BIKES, CAMPER TOP, MINI FRIDGE

J258 MURTEL KULPERS ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

W827 PATRICIA BELGADO MICROWAVE, TOYS, BED

J267 LINDA DAVILA LAMP, TABLE, VACUUM

W785 KENNETH COWLEY TV, BED, VACUUM

U669 JOSE CACERES SOFA, BED, DRESSER

**10:00 a.m. 24 JANUARY, 2006 Public Storage @ 7112 S. Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78745**

G30 PAULA GARCIA ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

B19 NESTOR ZAVALA SOFA, BED, BOXES

C37 KATHY LOWE WASHER, DRYER, SOFA

143 ERIC GORDON CPU, TV, CLOTHES

L82 CHRISTINA WEAVER SOFA, TV, CHAIRS

D23 RUBEN ROSALES ENT. CTR & BOXES

J25 JAMES FARMER WASHER, DRYER, CHAIR

C4 GREGORY PHILLIPS BOXES & TOTES

**10:30 a.m. 24 JANUARY, 2006 Public Storage @ 4202 Santiago, Austin, TX 78745**

304 JACK COCKLIN INTERIORS CARPET, TOLIETS, BLINDS

136 RON DAULTON TOOL BOX, OFFICE CHAIR, ICE CHEST

383 RUDY GARCIA WEIGHTS & SUITCASES

348 CLIFFORD HATCH BOXES & BAGS

317 VONNIE MANOR MAT-TRESS AND BOXES

762 LATANYA WYNN ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

562 DEBBIE CHAPMAN ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

**11:00 a.m. 24 JANUARY, 2006 Public Storage @ 5016 E. Ben White, Austin, TX 78741**

B005 CHESTER ARRINGTON BOXES, DESK, SHELVES

C096 JERRY GAINAY LAMP, TOTES, BOXES

B044 AMELIA HOLLINGS-WORTH ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

C245 KANDACE MCDONALD TV, DRESSER, SPEAKERS

D006 DANNY NERIO 1998 CADILLAC CATERA

E002 DANNY NERIO 1974 MERCEDES 280

C216 KALA ROBERTS TOYS, SOFA, CHAIRS

**11:30 a.m. 24 JANUARY, 2006 Public Storage @ 1033 E. 41ST ST., Austin, TX 78751**

1063 J.D. MATHISON TOTES, BOXES, BAGS

3031 NATIVIDAD CASTILLO COFFEE TABLES, RUG, BOXES

4024 ELAINE QUESADA WASHER, DRYER, LADDER

4158 MARTHA TOWNE LOVESEAT, BOXES, DRESSER

5055 CACAINE HILL TV, TABLE, LAMP

**9:30 a.m. 25 JANUARY, 2006 Public Storage @ 10100 N. IH-35, Austin, TX 78753**

C056 JESSICA GARCIA SOFA, BED, TOTES

B068 HILLARY BJERKE DRESSER, ENT. CTR, BOXES

**10:30 a.m. 25 JANUARY, 2006 Public Storage @ 937 Reinli, Austin, TX 78751**

924 TAMMYE NOEL CABINET, CHAIRS, YARD TOOLS

922 TAMMYE NOEL DVD PLAYER, EXERCISE MACHINE, BEDS

312 CYNTHIA LEE BABY BED, CARPET RUNNER, BEDS

723 JAMES ANDERSON PICTURE, BOXES, BAGS

328 GERALDINE SMITH LP'S, TOOLS, STEREO

307 MELISSA OWENS PIC-TURES, BOXES, SHELVES

780 MARY BAKER TV, BOXES, BOX SPRINGS

**11:00 a.m. 25 JANUARY, 2006 Public Storage @ 8101 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753**

537 CHERRY DAVIDSON SOFA, CHAIR, TV

N1260 MILTON WALKER JR. SOFA, BOXES, BED

1139 TERRY HOLMES ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

N2361 JESSICA EDWARDS ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

3126 KATHARINE OLIVER TIRES & RIMS, BOXES, TABLE

N3538 SHAWN JACKSON ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

431 EVOCKEEA WAYENAHAN ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

1454 LARRY BLEVINS SHELVES, FILING CABINET, LAMP

225 JESSICA CARTER BOXES & CLOTHES

**11:30 a.m. 25 JANUARY, 2006 Public Storage @ 8525 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753**

A012 MARGARITO SUAREZ MATTRESS, BOOTS, SPEAKERS

A14 HUONG LUU MICRO-WAVE, TABLE, FLOOR LAMP

A074 DANIEL ACKERMANN FUTON, XMAS TREE, SHELVING

B024 HEWAN TADESSE TV, TABLE, TRUNK

B056 KRYSTAL RODRIGUEZ TV, TOOLS, SOFA

C001 KIMBERLY KRAUSE-MARTIN BIKE, FAN, GLOBE

C017 TANYA WINES BOXES & CHAIR

E010 ZAIN MOHAMMAD BOXES

G002 LEONEL DEBLAS GARCIA VACUUM & CARPET

G029 RUBEN SANCHEZ PAINT, PAINT SPRAYER, TILE SANDER

**12:00 p.m. 25 JANUARY, 2006 Public Storage @ 8128 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753**

E044 PALMA SHEPPARD ENT. CTR, LAMP, SHOES

E097 JAN O. BLACK SOFA, LOVESEAT, STEREO

E110 SHANNON BURDETT SOFA, TABLE, CHAIRS

**12:30 p.m. 25 JANUARY, 2006 Public Storage @ 9205 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78758**

D038 CRYSTAL THOMPSON HILL ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

C125 ALL PHASES ELECTRIC ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

D089 ARTHUR VALDEZ ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

C088 DAVID WILLIS ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

**1:00 p.m. 25 JANUARY, 2006 Public Storage @ 10931 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759**

A06C DONNA LYNCH SPEAKERS & BOXES

**1:30 p.m. 25 JANUARY, 2006 Public Storage @ 12915 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78750**

D029 TIM WATSON BED, TV, BOXES

5111 MARY CUNNINGHAM BOXES, TOTES, LADDER

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS** Shurgard Storage Centers wishing to avail themselves to the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives notice of public sale under said Act to wit; this sale will be held on

January 23, 2006 beginning at 10:00 am at the Shurgard Storage Center located at 9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, Texas.

This sale will continue to each designated address listed below after the completion of each location sale. The property in the storage units at each location in the tenants' name is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's lien. The property contents of all storage units sold at this sale are purchased "AS IS" "WHERE IS" for CASH to the highest bidder. Shurgard Storage Centers reserves the right to refuse any bid or to cancel any public sale advertised. Announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed materials. All spaces contain household furniture unless otherwise noted.

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, TX 78748**

(512)282-9990; Brenda Mender, Alex Nisbet, Vickie Thatcher, Frances Reynolds, Dena Hatch, Patrick McCullough, Tonya Joy.

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 2121 IH 35 South, Austin, TX 78741 (512)693-9733;** April Oden, Jennifer Garrison, Allen Sterling.

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 5220 US 290 West, Austin, TX 78735 (512)892-3037;** James Gonzales, April Brown.

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 6726 Bee Caves Road, Austin, TX 78746**

(512)327-9113; Karen Kurio, Christy Cox-Sabo.

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 13675 N. Hwy. 183, Austin, TX 78750 (512)249-0085;** Chris Dauw, Kerl Clabaugh, Brian Caldwell.

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 10001 N IH 35, Austin TX, 78753 (512)837-6516;** Lisa Sanders, Robert Sykes, Pam Hausmann.

**SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 1517 Round Rock Ave, Round Rock, TX 78681 (512)255-7050;** Adam Compean, Rosa Robles, Janice Freeburn-Lit, Mark Aro, Keith Heinemann, Roy Solis.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE** Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, Texas Storage Park, which is located at 10013 Hwy. 620 N. Austin, TX 78726, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 am on February 6, 2006. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash or equivalent.

Brandon Amon: 1979 Ford Pickup

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE** The following property, currently housed at Budget Storage and Parking, 12001 Manchaca, is to

be offered for sale to satisfy a landlord's lien pursuant to Texas Property Code, Chapter 59.

Annette Avila - washer, dryer, furniture, toys, mattresses, misc. items

J.L. Simpson Corporation - shoes, clothing, books, electronics, misc. items

PZS Home Investments - desks, file cabinets, misc. office items

U. Arredondo Construction - sheetrock, wheelbarrels, shingles, misc. construction items

Christi Tower - sheetrock

Chris Brown - TV, table, misc. tools, misc. items

Cathy Reyes - dryer, chair, mattresses, misc. toys, misc. items, TV, infant car seat

Ismael Chavez - water cooler, microwave, furniture, misc. items

James McNees - hydraulic jack, dog house, misc. tools, misc. items

Sheldon Langmead - file cabinet, dressers, tools, misc. items

Kerry Burditt - infant car seat, sofas, misc. furniture, misc. items

The sale shall be held at Budget Storage & Parking, 12001 Manchaca, Wednesday, January 27, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property at any time prior to sale. Successful bidders shall be required to post a \$50.00 refundable deposit to ensure removal of property. Questions regarding this sale may be directed to Mrs. Liz Crum, Property Manager at (512) 282-7867.

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF GREGORY DALE ELMORE, DECEASED** Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Dependent Administration for the Estate of GREGORY DALE ELMORE, Deceased, were issued on January 4, 2006, in Cause No. 83,606, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to: ANTHONY ELMORE as Dependent Administrator. The residence of the Dependent Administrator is Battle Creek Michigan; an Appointment of Resident Agent form has been filed with the probate court. The post office address for claims is: Estate of GREGORY DALE ELMORE

Law Office of Diane Hebner  
507 West 7th Street  
Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 4th day of January, 2006.

Law Office of Diane Hebner  
507 West 7th Street  
Austin, TX 78701  
(512)477-4158 Telephone  
(512)477-2126 Fax

By: /s/ Diane Hebner  
State Bar No.: 09367300  
Attorney for Dependent Administrator

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BOBBY JAMES BARNHART, DECEASED** Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Bobby James Barnhart, Deceased, were issued on January 4, 2006, in Cause No. 83988 pending in the Travis County Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to Bobby Barnhart, Jr. and Marie Hudson as Independent Co-Executors. The residence of the Independent Co-Executors is outside of Travis County, Texas.

The post office address for claims is:

Estate of Bobby James Barnhart  
Gilman & Associates, P.C.  
1411 West Avenue, Suite 100  
Austin, TX 78701

All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated: January 6, 2006  
Gilman & Associates, P.C.  
1411 West Avenue, Suite 100  
Austin, TX 78701  
Attorneys for the Executors

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF LEA WAYNE ASHBY, DECEASED** Notice is hereby given that Letters of Testamentary were issued on the 28th day of December, 2005, for the Estate of LEA WAYNE ASHBY, Deceased, pending in Cause No. 84011 in the Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, to:

MARY JANE ASHBY  
Independent Executor

All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated: January 10, 2006.

Karen Keller, Dependent Administrator of the Estate of Stanley Emil Wendt, Deceased

By: Craig Hopper, Attorney for the Dependent Administrator

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF LEA WAYNE ASHBY, DECEASED** Notice is hereby given that Letters of Testamentary were issued on the 28th day of December, 2005, for the Estate of LEA WAYNE ASHBY, Deceased, pending in Cause No. 84011 in the Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, to:

MARY JANE ASHBY  
Independent Executor

All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated the 3rd day of January, 2006.

Nelson M. Davidson, Jr.  
Attorney at Law  
/s/ Nelson M. Davidson, Jr.  
Attorney for the Estate

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ALLEN N. WEBB** Claims may be presented and it is hereby instructed that claims be addressed to: Georgine H. Webb, Independent Executor of the Estate of Allen N. Webb, Deceased, 7904 Moritz Lane, Austin, Texas 78731.

All persons having claims against the Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

By: /s/ Theodore E. Comsudi  
Attorney for the Estate of Allen N. Webb, Deceased

5806 Mesa Drive, Suite 330  
Austin, Texas 78731  
512-346-8556

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BOBBY JAMES BARNHART, DECEASED** Notice is hereby given that Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of Bobby James Barnhart, Deceased, were issued on January 4, 2006, in Cause No. 83988 pending in the Travis County Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to Bobby Barnhart, Jr. and Marie Hudson as Independent Co-Executors. The residence of the Independent Co-Executors is outside of Travis County, Texas.

The post office address for claims is:

Estate of Bobby James Barnhart  
Gilman & Associates, P.C.  
1411 West Avenue, Suite 100  
Austin, TX 78701

All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated: January 6, 2006  
Gilman & Associates, P.C.  
1411 West Avenue, Suite 100  
Austin, TX 78701  
Attorneys for the Executors

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ALLEN N. WEBB** Claims may be presented and it is hereby instructed that claims be addressed to: Georgine H. Webb, Independent Executor of the Estate of Allen N. Webb, Deceased, 7904 Moritz Lane, Austin, Texas 78731.

All persons having claims against the Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

By: /s/ Theodore E. Comsudi  
Attorney for the Estate of Allen N. Webb, Deceased

5806 Mesa Drive, Suite 330  
Austin, Texas 78731  
512-346-8556

**WEBB, DECEASED** Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ALLEN N. WEBB, Deceased, were issued on November 15, 2005, Cause No. 83798, pending in Probate Court No. 1, of Travis County, Texas to the estate's personal representative: GEORGINE H. WEBB

Claims may be presented and it is hereby instructed that claims be addressed to: Georgine H. Webb, Independent Executor of the Estate of Allen N. Webb, Deceased, 7904 Moritz Lane, Austin, Texas 78731.

All persons having claims against the Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

By: /s/ Theodore E. Comsudi  
Attorney for the Estate of Allen N. Webb, Deceased

5806 Mesa Drive, Suite 330  
Austin, Texas 78731  
512-346-8556

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ALEXZENA RAINES WATSON, DECEASED** Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ALEXZENA RAINES WATSON, Deceased, were issued on November 8, 2005, Cause No. 83736, pending in Probate Court No. 1, of Travis County, Texas to the estate's personal representative: ANDREW JESS WATSON

Claims may be presented and it is hereby instructed that claims be addressed to: Andrew Jess Watson, Independent Executor, c/o Theodore E. Comsudi, Attorney at Law, 5806 Mesa Drive, Suite 330, Austin, Texas 78731.

All persons having claims against the Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

By: /s/ Theodore E. Comsudi  
Attorney for the Estate of Alexzena Raines Watson, Deceased

5806 Mesa Drive, Suite 330  
Austin, Texas 78731  
512-346-8556

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF GREGORY DALE ELMORE, DECEASED** Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Dependent Administration for the Estate of GREGORY DALE ELMORE, Deceased, were issued on January 4, 2006, in Cause No. 83,606, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to: ANTHONY ELMORE as Dependent Administrator. The residence of the Dependent Administrator is Battle Creek Michigan; an Appointment of Resident Agent form has been filed with the probate court. The post office address for claims is: Estate of GREGORY DALE ELMORE

Law Office of Diane Hebner  
507 West 7th Street  
Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 4th day of January, 2006.

/s/ John J. Migl  
ATTORNEY FOR THE REPRESENTATIVE

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BOBBY JAMES BARNHART, DECEASED** Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Bobby James Barnhart, Deceased, were issued on January 4, 2006, in Cause No. 83988 pending in the Travis County Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to Bobby Barnhart, Jr. and Marie Hudson as Independent Co-Executors. The residence of the Independent Co-Executors is outside of Travis County, Texas.

The post office address for claims is:

Estate of Bobby James Barnhart  
Gilman & Associates, P.C.  
1411 West Avenue, Suite 100  
Austin, TX 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 4th day of January, 2006.

/s/ John J. Migl  
ATTORNEY FOR THE REPRESENTATIVE

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BOBBY JAMES BARNHART, DECEASED** Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Bobby James Barnhart, Deceased, were issued on January 4, 2006, in Cause No. 83988 pending in the Travis County Probate Court No. 1



TOM AND RAY EXPLAIN 'LUGGING THE ENGINE'

Dear Tom and Ray:

I know that lugging the engine is bad, and I know how to avoid it. But what is it, really? What causes that pinging or clunking noise? Is the crankshaft bouncing up and down? Is there detonation in the combustion chambers?

— Randy

RAY: Good question, Randy. Most of the noise comes from mistimed explosions in the cylinders – which is called “detonation” or “pinging.”

TOM: When you lug the engine – when you try to accelerate in too high a gear – you make the engine work harder than it’s supposed to. Just like you would work harder than you’re supposed to if you rode your bicycle up a steep hill in 21st gear – as opposed to first gear.

RAY: When the engine is overworked, it overheats. The way it overheats is that the temperature inside the cylinders gets too high. When that happens, the gasoline-and-air mixture – which is supposed to detonate when the spark plug fires – detonates unpredictably at other times, too. That’s called pinging – when those extra detonations make a sound like marbles rolling around in a coffee can.

TOM: And under the worst of circumstances, you can also get piston slap, which is a “clunky” noise. Because you are getting uneven combustion inside the cylinder (the detonation doesn’t necessarily happen at the right time or in the right spot), the explosion can force the piston off to one side when it descends during the power stroke. When that happens repeatedly, the cylinder walls get all scraped up, and over time, your car turns into the proverbial oil-burning heap.

RAY: Also see: “Any car ever owned by my brother.”

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Auto repairs can be costly! Save money by ordering Tom and Ray’s pamphlet “Ten Ways You May Be Ruining Your Car Without Even Knowing It!” Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Ruin, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

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Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at [www.cartalk.com](http://www.cartalk.com).

Tune in to Car Talk each Saturday at 9am on



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CONTINUED 545 LEGAL NOTICES

VIEWING OF ITEMS WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2006 FROM 9:00 AM, UNTIL DAY OF AUCTION, ALL ITEMS SOLD AS IS, WHERE IS, BUYERS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROPERTY AS SOON AS DEAL IS CONCLUDED. BUYERS MUST REMOVE PROPERTY BY 5:00 PM, ON THE DAY OF THE AUCTION, ALL BIDDERS ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER PRIOR TO AUCTION, ALL PURCHASES MUST BE SETTLED AT END OF SALE, BUYER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REMOVAL OF PROPERTY FROM AUCTION SIGHT. TRAVIS COUNTY EMPLOYEES AND FAMILY ARE PERMITTED TO BID.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION YOU MAY CONTACT DAN ROLLIE AT (512) 854-6459 OR RON DUBE AT (512) 854-6458.

GASTON & SHEEHAN AUCTIONEERS, TXL #6497

WATTINGER CO., INC., is soliciting bids from all Certified HUB Subcontractors and Suppliers for the following project: TRAVIS COUNTY JAIL SMOKE EVACUATIONS PROJECT, Bid date is January 18, 2006 @ 1:00 p.m. Our phone number is 512-282-0616, fax is 512-282-5405.

X95-01694

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345th District Court of Travis County, on the 3rd day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered X95-01694, wherein Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Austin Community

College are plaintiffs, and Edward L. Hankey and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$5,762.68 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 4, 1996.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Being all that certain Lot 6, Block E, Cherrylawn, Section 5, Plat No. 19/44, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in that certain deed of record in Volume 8518, Page 164 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$5,762.68 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS

EXECUTION SALE WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

X95-05133

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 4th day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered X95-05133, wherein City of Austin, County Education District, Austin Community College, Travis County and Austin Independent School District are plaintiffs, and John Crawford, Jr., if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of John Crawford, Jr. and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$4,601.21 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 30, 1997.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 3, Kings Land, Plat No. 9/123A as described in Volume 9135, Page 745 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$4,601.21 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X95-10309

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 4th day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered X95-10309, wherein Travis County, City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Billy O. Ganong and Patricia A. Ganong are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$3,929.08 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on August 1, 1997.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 1350, Country Club Estates, Section 7, Plat No. 47/42 as described in Volume 7383, Page 209 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$3,929.08 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X95-11692

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered X95-11692, wherein City of Austin, County Education District, Austin Community College, Travis County and Austin Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Mary B. McDonald, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Mary B. McDonald and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$15,297.04 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on January 14, 1998.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 10, Block 2, Chernosky Subdivision No. 9 (Olt. 21, Div. B), Plat No. 4/190 as described in Volume 11073, Page 118 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$15,297.04 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X95-12736

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126th District Court of Travis County, on the 6th day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered X95-12736, wherein Travis County, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Austin Community College and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Moriah Mitchell, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Moriah Mitchell, Lewis Mitchell, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Lewis Mitchell, Ida Mitchell, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Chesta Mitchell King, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Alicitine Swan, John L. McNeil, Laura N. Morris, Eddie J. Hill, Drosie M. Brown, Billy J. Royston, Janette L. Swan, Janie L. Royston, City of Austin (In Rem Only), Dr. B.E. Harrison (In Rem Only), Members Insurance Company (In Rem Only) and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$5,118.55 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on August 15, 1996.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 7, Block 2, St. John's College Addition, Plat No. 4/71 as described in Volume 682, Page 203, Volume 3775, Page 1841, Volume 3775, Page 1847 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$5,118.55 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS".

BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X96-04902

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered X96-04902, wherein Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Austin Community College are plaintiffs, and Eurick Grant, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Eurick Grant and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$8,672.70 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 22, 1999.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 8, Block 1, Chernosky Subdivision No. 4 (Olt. 29, Div. B), Plat No. 4/107 as described in Volume 10992, Page 21 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$8,672.70 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X96-11931

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126th District Court of Travis County, on the 20th day of December, 2005 in a certain cause numbered X96-11931, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, Travis County and City of Austin are plaintiffs, and Howard McCarther, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Howard

McCarther, Rosetta McCarther, alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Rosetta McCarther and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$10,124.49 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on July 31, 2002.

I, on the 27th day of December, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 17, Block 2, Chernosky Subdivision No. 4, Plat No. 4/107 as described in Volume 2206, Page 427 (SAVE AND EXCEPT the north 5' as described in Volume 5052, Page 2112) of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$10,124.49 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of December, 2005.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X96-13169

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 4th day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered X96-13169, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and Douglas Robert Rucker, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Douglas Robert Rucker are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$7,864.75 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on December 2, 1999.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 12154, Highland Lake Estates, Section 12 Amended, Plat No. 54/35 as described in Volume 12287, Page 1325 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.



THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$7,864.75 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of February, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X99-01031

# CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Travis County, on the 5th day of January, 2006 in a certain cause numbered X99-01031, wherein Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County, Austin Community College, Travis County FM Road, State of Texas and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Lucinda Harris, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Lucinda Harris and City of Austin (in Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$14,022.01 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 27, 2000.

I, on the 5th day of January, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock PM., have levied upon, and will, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

50' by 259.5' out of Outlot 22, Division B as described in Volume 3065, Page 1295 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$14,022.01 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 6th day of January, 2006.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ N. DeWolfe DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.



## 610 CARS

'86 BMW White, great condition inside and out. One more year till it's a classic. Must see! 200K miles. \$1350 OBO. 731-9742

'90 ACCURA INTEGRA 4 Dr., 5 sp., looks & drives very well. Full warranty. \$2950. Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

'90 HONDA ACCORD EX, 4 door, AT, loaded, new brakes & timing belt. Full warranty. \$2950. Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

'90 NISSAN PATHFINDER 4 wheel drive, loaded, SE, 112K, warranty. \$6950. Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

'92 HONDA ACCORD 4 door, AT, very nice, warranty. \$3250. Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

'94 HONDA ACCORD EX AT, loaded. \$4950. Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

'99 TOYOTA CAMRY LE 4 Dr., AT, loaded, very, very nice. \$6950. Full warranty. Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

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DELOREAN DMC12 1981 stainless steel/leather, 10K, 5spd, \$22,500, 512/345-3747

DODGE NEON 2004 Pretty little 04 dark grey neon, only 2K miles, 5 speed, good, reliable, transportation. Call Dave at 577-9111.

FORD CROWN VICTORIA 1982 35K well-kept gr-grma's car \$1000 obo 835-5037

FORD CROWN VICTORIA 1992 Great shape, cold ac, recent inspection, new tires/brakes, asking \$2250.00 obo. MUST SELL! 512-589-5303

FORD TAURUS 1999 5000.00 obo, 4dr, v6 se model, under 57k, all power, great shape !! please call 512-695-9776

FORD THUNDERBIRD 1997 1997 FORD T-BIRD, 81,000 mi. clean, V6, automatic, power everything, heat/AC + pioneer CD player!! (646)643-8926, rose\_rebecca13@hotmail.com \$3400 OBO

FORD ZX2 SPORT 1999 2 door red automatic car that gets 32 mpg that is reliable and in good condition. Power windows and locks, a/c, gray cloth interior, 4 cylinder, and stereo. Any questions call (361)774-5491 or email me at bennett85@austinnr.com.

HONDA ACCORD DX 2002 a reliable little car with great gas mileage, paid off and no accidents

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TOYOTA CELICA GT 2000 auto, red, loaded, a/c, 151K mi \$5000 tel.(512)586-5122

VOLKSWAGEN CAMPER 1978 Runs good, needs some exhaust work. Joe257-9336

VOLKSWAGEN JETTA GL 1995 Jetta GL 2.0 \$2900 OBO, good cond. Insp+reg, 5spd, 35+ mi/gal. 135K, Sunroof! AC, car+stereo alarms, crz ctrl. Beige. (512)775-4159

VOLVO 164 1971 205,000 actual miles must drive many new parts 512-252-1479

VOLVO 240 WAGON 1990 Ran good-motor prob. \$600/OBO 873-2285p 272-8160x34a

VOLVO 740 TURBO 1994 Wont start. \$600/OBO 873-2258p 272-8160x34a

WANTED ALERO 2000 Want 2 Buy any year! Alero/Sebring +/- \$6000. 282-8989

## 615 TRUCKS

'96 RAV-4 60,000 miles, Loaded. \$6950. Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

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## 620 SUV'S

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JEEP TJ SUNRIDER SOFT TOP 1999 for 97-02s \$375 Contact@lsb\_15@yahoo.com

JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED 2005 Ext.edition silver perfect condition 6-speed manual 10.5K miles towpackage soft top-must sell because of a move! Very Fun! \$22K call 659-8666

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MOTORHOME Class A Allegro '83, self contained, sleeps 5, split bath, full kitchen, 2 ac, cent.heat, driver door, onan gen, 454 chevy motor, runs great, clean in/out, lots of storage, very livable, take exploring, OR keep on location in hip south/cent. park/low rent, walk to St. Edwards and SOCO, with fully enclosed/insulated deck, lg. shed/wkshp. and great yard COME SEE! call 971-2728

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# AUTO DEPOT #1 AGAIN! AGAIN! AGAIN! & AGAIN!

Many, many thanks to all those who have made us #1 again!  
We are so grateful to each and every one of you...  
- Jim Ernst, Manager, the Auto Depot

We are a full body shop and do any kind of mechanical repair on any kind of vehicle. You name it, we can do it. Call us and see why we've been voted #1 twice by The Austin Chronicle in the last three years. You won't be disappointed. We also sell cars that have been totally refurbished, and each comes with a full warranty and a free 21 day test drive.

"Last Halloween a drunk driver rear ended me. I thought the coolest thing about the whole experience would be talking to a cop dressed as a cross-dressing redneck vampire, but nay. Discovering the Auto Depot ended up being the highlight. They fixed up my Chevy with a new back end and repaint for much, much less than anyone else. Thanks guys!"  
- Shannon Durden, Southwest Austin



## SPECIAL CARS OF THE WEEK:



1990 Acura Integra, 4 dr., AT, looks & drives nicely. \$2950

1994 Honda Accord EX, AT, loaded. \$4950

1990 Honda Accord EX, 4 door, AT, loaded, new brakes & timing belt. Full warranty. \$2950

1998 Nissan Pathfinder, 4 wheel drive, loaded, SE, 112K, warranty \$6950

1996 RAV-4, 60,000 miles, loaded. \$6950

1992 Honda Accord, 4 door, AT, very nice, warranty. \$3250

1999 Toyota Camry LE, 4 door, AT, loaded, very, very nice. \$6950. Full warranty.

Just south of Braker Lane, off Lamar at 909 Prairie Trail.

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# Free Will ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsy for Jan. 15 to Jan. 21

Oops! We Goofed! We mistakenly flip-flopped Rob Breznsy's "Free Will Astrology" columns for the past two weeks. The one we're running this week was designed to be published last week, and last week's column should have appeared this time. Rob knows which week is which; we just had a small karmic conundrum. We sincerely hope that you can forgive us. We'll be back on track next week.

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19):** Germany and the Soviet Union failed to sign a peace treaty after the global hostilities of the mid-20th century. Technically, then, World War II never officially ended. This lack of closure doesn't seem to have had any lingering repercussions, though, so I won't worry about it. On the other hand, there are unresolved situations from your past that are still causing you problems. In my astrological opinion, 2006 is an ideal time to finally wrap up all the unfinished business that has been subtly draining you. It's a perfect opportunity for the ultimate karmic cleansing, preferably carried out with grace, gratitude, and generosity.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18):** In 1503, wealthy silk merchant Francesco del Giocondo commissioned Leonardo da Vinci to paint a portrait of his wife, Lisa. But when Leonardo finished the work, now known as the *Mona Lisa*, del Giocondo was so dissatisfied with it that he refused to pay for it. It seems he didn't recognize its value. I offer this as a teaching story for you, Aquarius. Please make sure that when you get what you ask for in 2006, you don't make the same mistake del Giocondo did. Eagerly welcome your dream-come-true, even if it's different from what you expected.

**PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20):** In his book *The Disappearance of the Universe*, Gary Renard quotes the counsel of his teacher: "A jet airliner is always going off course, but through constant correction it arrives at its destination. So will you arrive at yours." Remember that advice throughout 2006, Pisces. My analysis of the astrological omens suggests that you will be frequently straying from the path of your highest destiny, and yet that's exactly what needs to happen in order for you to reach your highest destiny. Forced to keep making regular adjustments, you will tone and strengthen your willpower, which is essential to your achievement of the goals that really matter.

**ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19):** Thai coffee salesman Prayoon Thongnorn owns a pet crocodile. So thoroughly has he tamed the creature that he lets it sleep in his bed with him, even resting his head on it as if it were a pillow. I predict that you will make a comparable conquest in 2006, Aries. Some dragonish influence that would be risky for most people to harbor will become your ally. Congratulations in advance on both your courage and the ingenuity you will summon to wrestle that beast into submission.

**TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20):** "We live in a world with too much music," writes Joe Nickell at Missoulian.com. He's bothered by the fact that everywhere he goes, there are tunes pouring from cell phones and mp3 players and TVs and radios and live bands. As far as you're concerned, though, Nickell is utterly off-base. In 2006, you should take advantage of the profusion; you should immerse yourself in music more than you ever have before. To do so will be instrumental in helping you accomplish your top assignment in the coming months, which is to feel deep, rich, interesting emotions as often as possible.

**GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20):** Many Geminis fit the description of a class of people that *Wired* magazine calls "yuppies," or "young experimenting perfection seekers." Overwhelmed by a profusion of conflicting opportunities, they are restless and insatiable. They treat life "as an exercise in comparison shopping, refusing to commit for fear of missing a better offer." While this approach is pretty normal for your tribe, I suspect it won't work as well in 2006 as it has for you in the past. That's why I urge you to try out some very different attitudes: a tolerance for imperfection, a respect for limits, an appreciation for the value of peace of mind, and a willingness to concentrate on just two or three possibilities instead of 17.

**CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22):** The coming months will not be a time for less talk and more action, my fellow Cancerian, but for *more* talk and more action. Here are other prescriptions to help you get the most out of 2006: Go on wilder adventures and entertain fewer superstitions. Indulge in fewer mood swings and invest in an experience that will serve as the best anchor you've ever had. Explore your secrets more aggressively, but keep fewer secrets. Work harder to know the difference between true intuitions and fearful delusions. Feel less remorse and more forgiveness. Cultivate wetter love and dryer humor. Commit yourself to faster promise-keeping and slower fault-finding.

**LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22):** I know people who love the feeling of family but who don't have much contact with their parents and siblings and haven't started their own broods. Instead, they quench their longing for an intimate network by hooking up with a spiritual family – a tribe of like-minded people who share their values. The coming months will be prime time for you to either find a group like that or, if you already have one, to deepen and expand your web of connections. You don't have to sacrifice your relations with your biological kin to do so. The more family you have, the better your mental health will be.

**VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22):** In her book *Women Who Run With the Wolves*, Clarissa Pinkola Estes talks a lot about fairy tales. As a psychotherapist, she recognizes that the conditions they depict are similar to how the deepest part of the psyche works. A central theme of fairy tale justice, she says, is that it's always a good idea to be kind to people who don't seem important or beautiful or cool. Characters who honor that principal are invariably rewarded, while those who spurn it are punished. This will be a key idea for you in 2006, Virgo. You can't afford to dismiss those you consider your inferiors, nor should you demonize the less attractive aspects of your own nature. Your success will hinge on the care you take with underdogs.

**LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22):** I have selected a quote by Irish playwright Brendan Behan to serve as your motto in 2006. I suggest that you write it out on a piece of red paper and place it in a prominent place like your bathroom mirror or computer monitor. "If you have a talent, use it in every which way possible," said Behan. "Don't hoard it. Don't dole it out like a miser. Spend it lavishly like a millionaire intent on going broke."

**SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21):** Widely regarded as a top military historian, Martin van Creveld has written books that have been influential in shaping modern theories of warfare. The U.S. Army makes his work required reading for its officers. That's why it was so remarkable when he described America's invasion of Iraq in 2003 as "the most foolish war since Emperor Augustus in 9 BC sent his legions into Germany and lost them." I urge you to regularly imitate Creveld's example in 2006, Scorpio: Speak out in dramatic fashion against the follies that your expertise gives you the right to critique. Drawing on your special experience and knowledge, make rigorous evaluations of the authorities and institutions whose decisions affect your life.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21):** "Dear Rob: I'm a very analytical person, with a doctorate in nuclear physics and a high tech job. All my training and business savvy tell me that your astrology column is superstitious bullshit, yet every time I've faced a crisis in the last 10 years, your horoscopes have provided accurate wisdom and counsel when things seemed darkest. On the one hand this makes no sense, and on the other hand I don't care that it doesn't make any sense. Somehow I'm able to draw sustenance from something whose power I don't understand or even believe in. In any case, thank you! -Humble Sagittarian Genius." Dear Sagittarius: In 2006, you Sagittarians will have the chance to benefit from many phenomena that fit the description you applied to my column. Open yourself wide to mystery.

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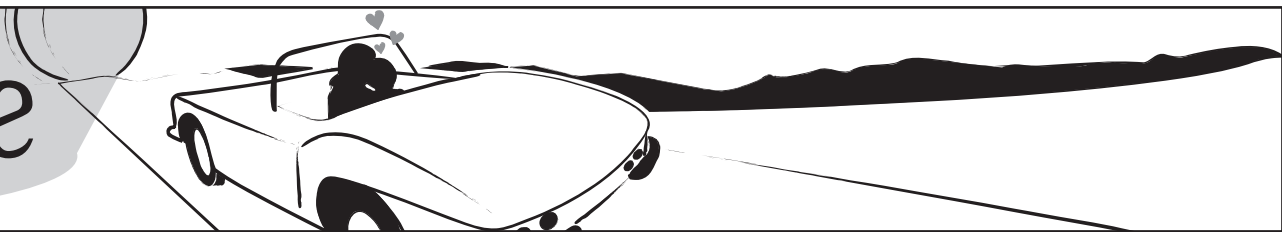
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# Lovers Lane



**austinchronicle.com/loverslane**

**VOICE RESPONSE: 520.547.4265**

## women SEEKING men

### GOT TATS?

SWF 33 seeks SH/WM 25-35, (5"9+ please) Recently moved back to Austin. Looking for someone to help me find my way around town again! BackRoom, Antone's, Beverly's BRING IT ON! **Aradia**, 33, ☎, #115414

### SEEKING INTELLIGENT LIFE

SWF/48, Love movies, poetry, reading, writing, web design, animals, and sensual adventures. I'm monogamous, straight, and want to feel like I'm someone you WANT to spend time with. No swingers. **poetesstx**, 48, ☎, #115369

### KRAZIELADIE

Pierced/Tattooed. I'm overwhelming, sarcastic, playful've often been described as funny, crazy, weird, insane, talented, goofy, kind, smart, and strange. I love singing, and doing anything else that involves creativity. **krazieladieNew2006-01-03**, 29, ☎, #115341

### MAKE ME LAUGH!

How delightful am I? Pretty damn delightful. I'm looking for someone to spend some time with. I like laughing, live music and talking to interesting and even uninteresting people. **eoltorfgril**, 38, ☎, #115297

### CALM, SERENE, GRACEFUL.

We must be willing to participate in the very scary and so much fun dance of our life. We must be willing to risk seeing ourselves in others eyes. **Karoli**, 49, ☎, #115254

### CLEVERCLASSYSEX

If you know who you are, you're "real" and you appreciate the "little things", have already "been there, done that" with the party scene...you're what I'm looking for. **Yellowroses**, 37, #115247

### SHE'S A RAINBOW

Erudite female seeks male brainiac for metaphysical congress over mo-chachino. I ride my recumbent trike for exercise and explore the mental frontier for fun. Voyage with me if you dare. **texphile**, 50, ☎, #115219

### I'M NOT CRAZY!

Hey there! - I'm travelling to Texas (from New Zealand) in January... Looking for people to have a beer with

and show me the sights... Flick me an email :). **nz\_chic**, 24, ☎, #115212

### HERE I AM!!!

New to area from Iowa! Looking for friends or more!! **Carnisera**, 19, #115188

### RU1

Im an easy going person, shy at first, but once things start rolling Im more open. Im looking for someone that can make me laugh, easy on the eyes, and honest. **Sweet**, 20, ☎, #115187

### FUNGI ISO CYANOBACTERIUM

For mutualistic association. Enjoy outdoors. Evolve at a constant rate. Be Practical as well as Generous. Know the joy of Living is his who has the Heart to Demand it. **EllenOIR**, 26, ☎, #115137

### INTRODUCING....

New to the area. New meaning I haven't had a chance to experience Austin. I want to meet a great guy that I can goof off w/and show me around. **doesntneedu**, 19, ☎, #115133

### NO SNAPPY TITLE

Overweight girl, pretty, loves sex, movies, music, fishing, and drinking. Interests range widely. Looking for someone I connect with. It's hard to squeeze my personality into a tiny paragraph. **Andreamgirl3**, 21, #115103

## men SEEKING women

### LOOKIN FOR FUN

Life Loving guy that wants someone to share time with. **QuadLatte**, 52, ☎, #115409

### GREAT NATIVE AUSTINITE

The Pitch Eh , I seek people to get out & about with to experience all of austin & the surrounding areas because it has SO much to offer. **austexan**, 39, ☎, #101295

### RELAXED INTELLIGENT DUDE

Im 25, true austinite looking for a woman. I enjoy dining, chillin', watching movies from vulcan video, smokin' bhudda, and being a student. I want to meet you. -david- **dav420**, 25, ☎, #115376

### CHECK ME OUT

Very nice, easygoing clean-cut Leo. A little reserved but I tend to loosen up with the right people, tall, active, reasonably handsome, likes culinary expeditions around Austin, tennis,

target-shooting, astrology. **tallblond-dudeinaustin**, 33, ☎, #115353

### CHARMING ADVENTUROUS HARDWORKER!!

Divorced (8 years) man from Missouri working in Austin looking for companionship. Hobbies are traveling, golfing, swimming, reading & sports. I'm a good listener and don't play with peoples emotions. **HeartofGold**, 46, ☎, #115337

### BADBOY GONE GOOD.

Hi, I'm the bad boy your mother warned you about.I'm a gentleman and romantic.Oh I do cook in and out of the kitchen. Lets hook up. **badboyz003**, 47, ☎, #115328

### ROMANTIC SEEKS SAME

36yo DWM who believes in fairy tales and is active volunteer seeks partner for romance, hard work, fun and living life. If you are S/D/W F, DDF/educated, call or write. **romantic64**, 36, ☎, #115304

### I NEED YOU

I have lived in Austin six years.I am a caring, sweet, and cheerful guy. I work full time and would enjoy a female to come to after work. **texasraised**, 24, ☎, #115286

### ATHLETIC, SMART, NICE

Attractive, active, athletic, smart, nice guy, great job, love to do anything outdoors... looking for active, smart, funny, beautiful woman who is even more beautiful on the inside. **davy**, 38, ☎, #115272

### KEEPING LIFE SIMPLE

I am a professional piano player..a man-ager...i love the arts and live music...i love the outdoors...and i love to cook...i love to laugh and keeping life simple... **texpianoman**, 35, ☎, #114932

### SEEKING PERSPICACIOUS GEEKGIRL

Rabid bibliophile and unconventional socially apt geekboy (SWM 33) seeks unconventional geekgirl (SWF 24-34) for bookstore raiding, eclectic dinners, gaming, intense tete-a-tete, nosethumbing authority, rifle shooting, and immanentizing the eschaton. **perdurabo**, 33, ☎, #115226

### IM THAT GUY

I am friendly, loving, patient, slow/simple conversation if it describes you. People say that i'm one of the best friends they've ever had. i love coffee-houses and diners! **thatchrixATXguy**, 19, ☎, #115220

## women SEEKING women

### FEMALE FOR FEMALE

Im a all around cool person, interested in making new friends, or more.Im looking for a bi fem for friends possible relationship, 19-39 outgoing, someone who likes having fun! **afem4afem**, 26, #115118

### SPONTANEOUS- FUN- CUTE

I am looking for womyn to date who are interested in being spoiled, pampered and satisfied. Prefer womyn 35-50 who are willing to let go and have a good time. **lvslacker**, 42, #114988

### ATTRACTIVE FEM PROFESSIONAL

45 year old attractive fem professional seeks attractive fem, height/weight fairly proportionate, for fun and possible long-term relationship. No excessive drug, alcohol or mental health problems. **bambi1**, 46, ☎, #114961

### PRETTY BI-CURIOS FREAK

I am looking for someone who can teach me new things. Let me be your guinea pig. I'm open to whatever. I'll behave, I promise. **XOXOXO. thaichick**, 25, #114880

### BIG TEDDY BEAR

Looking for a person who is honest and cares about people. A person who can have a good time and not a drunk. Have been in along term relationship. **Pecosjohn**, 52, #101343

### HONEST LOVABLE CUTE

I love nature and having a trustworthy,honest woman to share this with. I'm an adventurous person that loves spontaneity. Are you ready to start living? **lookn2love**, 51, ☎, #101259

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## men SEEKING men

### PLAYS WITH CARS

Lookin' for a masculine guy from mid 20's to mid 40's to get to know and hang out in Round Rock. See online loverslane ad for more on me. **freshsteeds**, 48, ☎, #115162

### OPEN, WORTH IT

Looking for friendship or dating. I like travel, dogs, Book People, South Congress Cafe, running, weekends with friends. Music? Andrea Bocelli, Kenny Chesney, Cher, George Bush is a baffoon. **Runner**, 48, ☎, #114896

### PLAYFUL? LIVING CONSCIOUSLY?

See the rosy side of life first. I want to have hot passionate times with a man who is okay with change, intelligence and expressions. Looking for benefits with friend. **nowliveit**, 44, ☎, #101288

### NICE FUN GUY

Hi. I'm an outgoing fun guy who can also be happy as a home-body. I'm looking for a sincere, fun guy to be friends with. Let's give it a try! **Austin-pax**, 49, ☎, #101238

### NICE GUY

swm 42 5'10" 160 looking for big strong masculine muscular men for friendship casual dating & possible LTR Im a very laid easy going type person to get along with. **mgf2005**, 42, ☎, #101030

## JUST friends

### GREASER GAL 4 FRIENDS

24 year old chic looking for some friends. I dig the 50's sound, style, way of life. Looking for others to listen to tunes vintage shop & hangout. **Pinky25**, 24, #115391

### SWEET DESIGNER

I'm a single gal in Northeast Austin, looking for someone to share my adventures. I like to cook, visit museums, take photos and see the eccentric/quirky side of Austin. **tydesigns**, 26, ☎, #115309

### COUPLE SEEKS FRIENDS

Couple seeks singles or couples for friendship only! Dinners, kayaking, movies, happy hours, cards, or hanging out. Not too new to the area but aren't in jobs that promote friendships. **needspsals**, 28, #115303

### NOT SO AVERAGE

So, I'm not perfect, but, I tell lame jokes that will make you laugh when you're down. If I won a million dollars, I would buy shoes for underprivileged children. **dapo2004**, 19, ☎, #115285

### FRIENDS AGES 21-28

I am looking for friends to get to know each other and meet one day. **melenie24**, 24, ☎, #115105

### MUSICIAN SEEKS PARTNER

Passionate pennywhistler - playing from earth-shakingly low to blissfully high ones - seeks creative partner to perform, and record amazing, neo-neo-traditional Celtic music. Also have recording studio, guitar, harp, keyboards. **LisahnG**, 56, ☎, #114843

### SUPER-LOVELY FUN TOES

i'm overwhelming, sarcastic, obnoxiously playful sometimes, occasionally overly-serious, somewhat manic, lactose-intolerant, addicted to caffeine, bitchy and tender. **badkitty**, 28, ☎, #101250

### VAMPALICIOUS BUTTERFLY WOMAN

Join me for some fun in the sun, camping, wine tasting, disco dancing, movie watching, exotic music viewing, pool playing, half priced book hunting, and watching hot air balloons fly. **wingbtrfly**, 32, #101084

# a Shot in the Dark

### PRINCESS @ COOP

Sept. '04: You w/friend Jackie(?), unique style and beautiful smile. Me: rugged yet sensitive guy w/motorcycle. We shared a kiss on your balcony. No one else is looking for you! **When: Saturday, September 11, 2004. Where: Co-op Bar on 6th. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900154**

### TALL DARK, HANDSOME....

Outward appearances only count for so much. You: Jerk? Me: Stupid?... Im pretending you can actually play Trivial pursuit but I know my dog can speak better spanish than you! **When: Sunday, Dec. 18. Where: His place. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900153**

### SHARON FROM PHILLY

waiting for the 331 in an awesome jacket. It was an immense pleasure to meet you, & I would like to do so again. Call **When: Thursday, Dec. 15. Where:**

**busstop. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #900152**

### I HATE HAMBURGERS...

Joe: I abruptly quit my job; with that came the end of any future wednesday night encounters with you. Who's going to make sure there isn't cheese on your #17/#10? **When: Wednesday, Nov. 30. Where: Hamburger Hell. You: Man. Me: Woman. ☎ #900151**

### FUEL BARBACK.

I worked and when i was leaving, you asked me to get the lights on the stairs on for you. you-brown hair & a smile that's to die for. reply? **When: Friday, Dec. 16. Where: Fuel Nightclub on Trinity. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900150**

### SABINA IT'S KIT

YOU: Sabina @ Whole Woman's Health. ME: Kit from Quest. Can we meet fZiooffee or something? Want to

meet you. **When: Wednesday, Dec. 7. Where: Whole Woman's Health. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #900149**

### DON'S DEPOT BEAUTY...

table closest to the door. You: tall gorgeous brunette w/2 girlfriends. Me: sitting booth-side next to you in blue cowboy shirt w/2 friends. We looked, we smiled, you were gone... **When: Friday, Dec. 16. Where: Don's Depot. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900148**

### AARON T-CLOUD CUSTOMER

you: aaron my long lost soccer boyfriend and all time favorite customer: ex- manchaca/lamar thundercat, still enamoured and wanting more... still hungry??? **When: Saturday, Dec. 18, 2004. Where: thundercloud manchaca/lamar. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900147**

### MARGARET FROM N.O.

12/18/05 at 1 a.m. leaving the bar

where i work. Couldn't talk then, but would like to have a proper meeting? This is corny, but i had to try. **When: Sunday, Dec. 18. Where: at the door. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900146**

### ANOTHER UNION @UNION?

You: In the lounge wearing a "Fight the Man" t-shirt Me: Blond with dimples who misplaced your # You shared your couch and a cookie- Wanna share mine? **When: Monday, Dec. 12. Where: UT Union- 2nd floor. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900145**

### ACC RIVERSIDE SATURDAYS

I see you every Saturday morning looking so tall dark and handsome. Now that it is over maybe we can have some fun. Love Art History? **When: Saturday, Dec. 17. Where: ACC Riverside. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900144**

### GROOVIN' AT SPEAKEASY

Dancing at Speakeasy 12/2. You:

aspiring comedian getting MBA. Me: tall redhead who loved to swing. You were a republican, I wasn't. How were the stand-up gigs in LA? **When: Friday, Dec. 2. Where: Speakeasy. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #900143**

### ALAMO VILLAGE

Me your waitress, you cute King Kong fan drinking a large Dr Pepper. I told you I loved you with my eyes, come back for "full" service. **When: Thursday, Dec. 15. Where: Alamo Village 1050 showing. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900142**

### 2 CUTIES @GLASS

Hey-The pictures came back great! It was my birthday and my friend asked you two to be in a picture with me! We should have talked after the photo... another chance? **When: Saturday, Dec. 10. Where: Glass. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900141**

### HOMESLICE HOSTESS MISSING

Where did you go Ashley? I thought I'd get to visit you on the block. Now I've lost my chance? let's catch back up. Your Former Zen Crush. **When: Thursday, Nov. 24. Where: Home Slice Pizza. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900140**

### AT THE VET?

You-buying kitty food at Travis Country Vet on 12/16. Me-bringing my black/ white kitten in for surgery. You let me cut in line. Really wish I had talked to you more! **When: Friday, Dec. 16. Where: At Travis Country Vet Hospital on 290S. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900139**

### CLEOPATRA OF GINNY'S

Your Beauty has captured me Cleopatra! At the Dale show Thursday at Ginny's you were wearing a "I'm a Pepper" shirt. I just would like to know. Are

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### NEED SOMETIME MAN

Attached to love one who is sick. Needing love to sustain me, if the energy is right. I'm pretty, funny, intelligent. U are a sensual, demonstrative and independent artist. Weekdays. **lola, 45, #115093**

**NAIVE LUST**  
Looking for an open-minded, intellectual, attractive, sensual, interesting, family-oriented guy with no children; who is a pervert in the bed. I want the best of both worlds; Open to new ideas. **Vana, 35, #115092**

### SHY SOFT MAMA

Happy in relationship seeking seldom but hot and important encounters with intellectual sweet caring maybe misunderstood man who enjoys still attractive well-groomed heavier busty women with brains and heart. **Gen28, 28, #115038**

### HORNY NEED MORE!

29 yr old married HF seeking discreet sex partner for occasional romps in the sack. you must be discreet.26-35 hispanic male. no long term relationships.speak spanish. **2noty2bniece, 29, #114844**

### TREAT ME RIGHT

BBW,newly single,looking for d/d free male to win my affections, and travel with me. No, you're not dreaming. Meet me. **TreatUright, 38, #101247**

### KRAZIELADIE

SWF Bi fun loving outgoing red head, adventurous risk taking, willing to try anything once. **krazieladie, 29, #101155**

### HOT AND READY

About myself, black female with short brown hair, full figured professional attached. Looking for a very pretty full figured female also attached for discreet fun. **Hottie, 34, #115154**

### SINGLE MOM SEXY SINGLE HORNEY

I am totally new at this and looking for someone to fulfill my fantasies. **shyslut, 22, #115060**

### DOWNTOWN DAYTIME FUN

Wanting to hook up with a lady for discreet daytime playtime. LOVE giving and eager to please. Discreet, clean and ready to play. Let me know how I can please you. **Daytime\_Downtown, 49, #115156**

### PRIVATE EROTIC ENCOUNTER

Single, centered, self-employed man seeks discreet encounter(s) with attractive woman. Private apartment; fireplace, music, wine, and us... Available days or evenings. e-mail, pics, and meet first to determine mutual attraction. **goodhead, 57, #115138**

### MARRIED DOM GENTLEMAN

Looking for a married submissive woman who NEEDS to share a bdsm relationship with a gentleman of like mind. Conversation, philosophy to serious play, complete discretion and respect is assured.. **vlvtgent, 55, #115135**

### LOOKING FOR FUN!

I'm looking to meet new friends and have some good clean fun! A good sense of humor and good personal hygiene go a long way. **cajunluvin, 33, #115129**

### GREAT GUY

looking 4 a woman to hang out with and have some FUN!Im fun and good looking guy and some say im a pretty funny guy.I love to make women laugh. **cowboy05, 19, #115111**

### LOOKING FOR WOMEN

Hi my name Keko I look for the women who wants to have fun, play & go out to see a movie, to have a dinner & lot more. **TIO2376, 29, #115086**

### SUGAR DADDY NEEDED

**Where: Every time I close my eyes. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900135**

### FAINT LOVES LIT

You: Jackson Could be a dead ringer for Joshua Homme Me: Marlene Couldn't keep in my excitement for The Faint Should've asked you out but didn't Better late than never? **When: Wednesday, Dec. 7. Where: In my Literature class. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900133**

### SCOTT THE CUTEST MOTORCYCLEOP

I used to make your gingerbread latte with a smile and a wink. I think about you often...are you still tied down? If not, take me for a ride? **When: Saturday, March 15, 2003. Where: starbucks on brodie. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900132**

### APPLIED MATERIALS GUY

Monday 12/12 lunchtime at Vespa. Me,

boytoy,cute,in shape, willing to please older secure,looks unimportant,small endowment a plus,discreet,young looking,looking for over 40,whatever you want you got it. **ertil, 22, #115121**

### SCHIZOPHRENIC ARTIST

gwm 40 5'10" 200lbs darkhair darker eyes, seeking open minded, larger, hairy, tattooed teddy bear, slightly insane, to cuddle and wrestle with. horror films as forplay. **panic65, 40, #115083**

### EXPLORER NEW JOURNEY

Looking to meet for some dicreet activity. Am new be gentle. Willing to try new things. **wildtiger, 42, #114936**

### WORKING MAN'S SPECIAL

Private attention for a masculine male who enjoys being touched all over. Plus - husky, hairy and in fairly good shape. Hot hands and total relief by mature bi-male. South. **maJichands, 60, #110363**

### GREAT MESSAGE

35 latino bttm iso top Arab, Middle Eastern , Indian male who needs body rub down. Plus hairy chested, hairy bodys,big hands, mustache goatees. Str8,Bi married. discreet live North Austin. **tedrod24, 37, #101244**

### TOMORROW'S MAN TODAY

Almodovar, New Wave, Bastard Pop, Strangers With Candy, kitsch, my dog, Goldfrapp...These are a few of my favorite things. GWM, 35, seeks partner with similar interests who's tall and handsome. **kirkconnect, 35, #101123**

### YOUNG TX GUY

will like to find a lady or ladies to have fun with, this can be a short or long term relation. will like to find a lady between 18-45yrs. **youngTxGuy, 28, #114991**

### ABUSE ME

I'm looking to have some discreet fun. Open to anything and everything. **spacemaster69, 34, #114986**

### ATTENTION HUSBANDS

want to watch this sweet, handsome latino fellow touch & fondle your pretty wife while you watch or participate.I'll only do what you want me to. My place or yours. **Bond007, 34, #114968**

### DIVER DOWN

New to Austin and looking to explore the diverse culture here. Ready for a night out on the town followed by an evening of passionate romance. **xtcany1, 41, #114890**

### NAUGHTY BOY

available for very pretty,very feminine transexual,naughty female or hot & sexy couple. I am a handsome,generous SHM. **miko, 44, #101366**

### TITILATING TONGUE DELIVERS

I love to use my tongue to give you pleasure. I am a healthy intelligent man looking for a woman or a couple.Discreet no strings attached fun experiences desired now. **pleasuredoctor, 42, #101309**

### NYMPHO

I need a sexy woman for my first time. If you can help, contact me. Let's meet for drinks. My man will chaperone. **SaDiE, 28, #115157**

### WE R NAKED

We are a fun loving open minded married couple. I am 39 she is 45. We are done making babies but like to practice..ALOT. Do you? get back intouch. **nascarnaked, 39, #115144**

### EXPERIMENTORS

MWC 52/45: Open-minded, libertarian into a variety of alternative and experimental life-style dimensionsó spiritually, sexually, philosophically. Looking for similarly minded couple to share interests, activities, and friendship. **Fenrir, 52, #115139**

### MARRIED COUPLE DISCREET

would like to meet other couples in the same age range as us 30 & 33 OR slightly older for couples swinging sessions, must be fun and safe and attractive. **spun, 33, #115085**

### COUPLE LOOKING

We are an easy-going emotionally mature couple with a stable home-life looking for a little adventure with a curvy woman. See us occasionally for a fantastic Friday or Saturday night. **CactusLove, 31, #115055**

### THE OTHER SIDE

Safe to say we both like a variety of sexual play.Extreme but within limits. Body and mind will be bare, exposed and open to any and all sensation. **up4anything, 28, #115028**

### PANTYHOSE/BOTH/PARTY

My body is not a temple it's an amusement park!My park has a theme,I'm a sexy crossdresser,love pantyhose sex, very clean/healthy,seeking females,cd/tv,coupl.into same party attitude over looks,BBW in pantyhose sexy. **ter-rytxcd, 51, #114980**

### FIRM SMOOTH PRETTY

Pretty dressed in lace panties and very handsome dressed in jeans. I've been fantasizing about a man for too long. Can you treat me like a woman? **jackie69, 47, #101254**

### BLONDE SHEMALE HOTTIE

I am a sexy siren wherever I go. I like men who are in very good shape. I love naughty (no strings) fun! You will love to make me all excited. **BlondeHottie, 29, #101055**

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## THE luv doc

### Star of Texas Tattoo Art Revival

**Jan. 12-15 • Red Lion Hotel • 6121 N. I-35**  
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Just about everybody at some point in life gets wasted and does something stupid. What else explains the population explosion? The Macarena? Low-rise jeans? Gerbling? George W.? All of these things seemed like a perfectly good idea at the time ... well, except for the gerbling and George W. The wonderful thing about life, though, is that the painful memories of the thrashing and the clawing and the muffled squeaks and the bleeding eventually fade away. Ideally we learn from our mistakes, evolve, and achieve a higher state of consciousness. This is not to say we don't slip up on occasion. Bush is a prime example: an unfettered rodent still thrashing around in the collective rectum causing ugly and irreparable damage. Of course a stupid metaphor doesn't last nearly as long as a stupid president and it isn't nearly as dangerous. Some people believe that stupidity makes a great argument for sobriety, but that's a bankrupt premise. The world is full of stone-sober simpletons who make even the most reckless inebriate look like a genius in comparison. Point is, you don't have to be wasted to do something stupid, but it certainly helps. A lot of people get wasted before they get a tattoo, but that doesn't necessarily mean tattoos are stupid. Like Bush, they may be hard to get rid of, but a lot of people would say they are an art form. This weekend, those people will be staying at the Red Lion Hotel, the site for the Star of Texas Tattoo Art Revival. Tattoo artists from all over the world will be on hand to show their work and maybe make a lasting impression or two. Go wasted if you dare.

## SKI TRIP WINNER!

### SEEKING PERSPICACIOUS GEEKGIRL

Rabid bibliophile and unconventional socially apt geekboy (SWM 33) seeks unconventional geekgirl (SWF 24-34) for bookstore raiding, eclectic dinners, gaming, intense tete-a-tete, nosethumbing authority, rifle shooting, and immanentizing the eschaton. **perdurabo, 33, #115226**

**Congratulations perdurabo! You've won a Ski Trip for Two to Beautiful Winter Park, Colorado!**

**Think you can do better?** Place a free Lovers Lane profile with a picture before February 3 and win a \$150 Salon Package from JR Salon. For details, go to: **austinchronicle.com/loverslane**

you available? **When: Thursday, Dec. 15. Where: Ginny's Little Longhorn. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900138**

### JO'S AND CRUTCHES...

Your crutches and DKNY sweatshirt were mighty sexy... just wanted to see if you honestly read these. If so, I figured I might get a smile for it. See ya. **When: Thursday, Dec. 15. Where: Jo's Coffee. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #900137**

### MOZARTS, YOU- REDBANDANA

you- cute guy at Mozarts, red bandana, sometimes with friends. her- cute short brunette, computer/reading, too shy to talk to you! Be a man, I'm giving you the green light! **When: Wednesday, Dec. 14. Where: Mozarts. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900136**

### PEACHES

Have I told you lately that I love you? I do, madly. **When: Thursday, Dec. 15.**

blonde in boots and jeans. You,new to Austin,bought sweatshirt and asked where to buy jewelry like mine. Need a lunchtime tour guide? **When: Monday, Dec. 12. Where: Vespa Austin. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900131**

### HEY KIMI!

You sat on a couch holding a chihuahua I sat in a chair next to you, I meant to ask for your number. You, green eyes and cute toes. **When: Saturday, Dec. 10. Where: Christmas party last Saturday. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900130**

### BRYAN AT RITZ

You Bryan with a Y. Me the girl @ Ritz then 710 and probably back again. You bought us all drinks. let me properly thank you. **When: Saturday, Nov. 19. Where: Ritz. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900129**

### PIERCED EBONY PRINCESS

Bus # 1, you said piercings were sexy.

Lent you a lighter @ Buffalo Exchange then later a cigarette near UT. Me: pierced lip W/ mohawk, extremely shy. Please respond!! **When: Sunday, Nov. 6. Where: Southbound bus #1. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900128**

### A MAGIC LIFE?

12/13/05 capmet #3 i asked about the book you were reading. interested in borrowing my portable darkness? **When: Tuesday, Dec. 13. Where: #3 bus. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900127**

### HEB OFF JOLLYVILLE

You were chatting on your phone.. wearing a grey t-shirt..i think..i was in patagonia sweater..messy hair..jeans rolled up with boots.. we caught eyes a few dozen times.. leaving town! your name? **When: Tuesday, Nov. 29. Where: HEB off Jollyville. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900126**

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